

**In the Claims:**

*Claims 2-221 have been amended. New claims 222-303 have been added. Claims 2-303 remain in the application.*

---

2. (Three Times Amended) A method of transmitting signals comprising the steps of:

81 inputting a signal and a transmission schedule associated with said signal, said transmission schedule including code designating said signal and at least one of:

(1) a time at which to transmit said signal; and

(2) one of a frequency and an output network on which to transmit said signal;

transmitting said signal according to said transmission schedule;

selecting one of said code and an identifier associated with said signal; and

logging transmission of said signal.

[A method of transmitting signals: inputting a signal and a transmission schedule associated with said signal, said transmission schedule comprising a code designating said signal and at least one of:

(1) a time at which to transmit said signal; and

(2) a channel on which to transmit said signal;

transmitting said signal according to said schedule;

selecting one of said code and an identifier associated with said signal; and

logging said step of transmitting said signal.]

---

82  
83  
84 3. (Twice Amended) A method of processing signals to control a plurality of [user] receiver stations, each [user] receiver station having a processor, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving [a programming signal] an information transmission [which contains mass medium programming] and communicating said [programming signal] information transmission to a storage device;

Ed  
Gmt  
receiving [at least one instruct signal] a control signal which is effective to [instruct] control a first of said plurality of [user] receiver stations to transmit said [programming signal] information transmission [according to a transmission schedule and one of said first of said plurality of user stations and a second of said plurality of user stations to log a transmission record of said programming signal] and to control a second of said plurality of receiver stations to identify and process at least a portion of said transmitted information transmission;

selecting one of the group consisting of:

- (1) a time at which to communicate said control signal; and
- (2) a [memory] storage location to which to communicate said control signal;

communicating [a first of said at least one instruct] said control signal [one of at said selected time and to said selected memory storage location] based on said step of selecting; and

storing said [programming signal] information transmission and said [first instruct] control signal at said storage device.

4. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising one of the steps of:

embedding said [first instruct] control signal in said [programming signal] information transmission;

embedding a code in said [programming signal] information transmission that enables a processor to control a presentation of [said] mass medium programming contained in said [programming signal] information transmission in accordance with said [first instruct] control signal;

communicating a program unit identification code to said storage device and storing said program unit identification code at a storage location associated with said [programming signal] information transmission;

communicating to and storing at said storage device some information to evidence one of an availability, use, and usage of one of said [programming signal] information transmission and [said] mass medium programming contained in said [programming signal] information transmission at a user station;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second [instruct] control signal which is effective at a user station to generate some output to be associated with one of said [programming signal] information transmission and [said] mass medium programming contained in said [programming signal] information transmission;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second [instruct] control signal which is effective to generate some output to be associated with one of a product, service, and an information presentation;


communicating to and storing at said storage device a second [instruct] control signal which is effective to display one of a combined and a sequential presentation of a mass medium program and a user specific datum;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second [instruct] control signal which is effective to process a user reaction to [said] mass medium programming contained in said [programming signal] information transmission;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second [instruct] control signal which is effective to one of communicate to a remote station a query in respect of information to be associated with said [programming signal] information transmission, and to enable display of [said] mass medium programming contained in said [programming signal] information transmission;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second [instruct] control signal which is effective to control a user station to receive information to supplement one of said [programming signal] information transmission and [said] mass

medium programming contained in said [programming signal] information transmission;

 communicating to and storing at said storage device a second [instruct] control signal which is effective to process a digital [television] signal which [is separately defined from analog] contains television programming; and

communicating to and storing at said storage device one of a code and a datum to serve as a basis for one of enabling an output device to display at least a portion of [said] mass medium programming contained in said [programming signal] information transmission, and for enabling a processor to process executable code.

5. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said selected memory location is within said [programming signal] information transmission at said storage device, said method further comprising the step of storing some information at said storage device that evidences at least one of:

- (1) a title of a television program;
- (2) a proper use of programming;
- (3) a transmission station;
- (4) a receiver station;
- (5) a network;
- (6) a broadcast station;
- (7) a channel on a cable system;
- (8) a time of transmission;
- (9) a identification of an instruct signal;
- (10) a source or supplier of data;
- (11) a distributor or an advertisement; and
- (12) an indication of copyright.

6. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 3, said method further comprising the steps of:  
selecting one from the group consisting of:

(1) a datum that identifies a unit of computer software in said [programming signal] information transmission;

(2) a datum that specifies some of a way to instruct receiver equipment what specific programming to one of:

- select to one of play and record other than that immediately at hand;
- load on one of player and recorder equipment;
- instruct when and how to one of play and record other than immediately;
- instruct how to modify said specific programming;
- instruct one of what equipment, channel and channels to transmit said specific programming on;
- instruct when to transmit said specific programming; and
- instruct how and where to one of file, refile and dispose of said specific programming;

(3) a datum that designates an addressed apparatus;

(4) a datum that specifies one of where, when, and how to locate a signal;

(5) a datum that informs a processor of a fashion for identifying and processing a signal;

(6) a datum that is part of a decryption code;

(7) a comparison datum that designates a communication schedule; and

embedding said selected one in said [programming signal] information transmission.

7. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said storage device comprises a file storage medium and said [programming signal] information transmission and said [first instruct] control signal are stored in a file on said file storage medium, said method further comprising the steps of:

selecting a second [instruct] control signal, said second [instruct] control signal being one from the group consisting of:

- E3  
Cont.
- (1) a switch control signal;
  - (2) a timing control signal;
  - (3) a locating control signal;
  - (4) an instruct-to-contact signal that designates a remote receiver station;
  - (5) an instruct-to-transfer signal that designates a unit of broadcast or cablecast programming;
  - (6) an instruct-to-delay signal that designates a unit of broadcast or cablecast programming;
  - (7) an instruct-to-decrypt or instruct-to-interrupt signal that designates a unit of programming and a way to decrypt or interrupt;
  - (8) an instruct-to-enable or instruct-to-disable signal that designates an apparatus;
  - (9) an instruct-to-record signal that designates a broadcast or cablecast program;
  - (10) an instruction signal that controls a multimedia presentation;
  - (11) an instruction signal that governs a broadcast or cablecast receiver station environment;
  - (12) an instruct-to-power-on signal that designates a receiver;
  - (13) an instruct-to-tune signal that designates a receiver or a frequency;
  - (14) an instruct-to-coordinate signal that designates two apparatus;
  - (15) an instruct-to-compare signal that designates a news transmission or a computer input;
  - (16) an identifier signal that causes a computer to instruct a plurality of tuners each to tune to a broadcast or cablecast transmission;

E3  
Cmdd.  
(17) an instruct-to-coordinate signal that designates two units of multimedia information and one of: (1) an output time and (2) an output place;

(18) an instruct-to-generate signal that designates an output datum;

(19) an instruct-to-transmit signal that designates a computer output;

(20) an instruct-to-overlay signal that designates a video image;

(21) an instruct-that-if signal that designates a function to perform if a predetermined condition exists;

(22) an instruct-to-enable-and-deliver signal that designates information that supplements a video image;

(23) an instruct-to-transmit signal that designates a computer peripheral storage device;

(24) a code signal that designates a datum to remove or embed; and

(25) a signal addressed to a receiver station apparatus; and  
storing said selected second [instruct] control signal in said file on said file storage medium.

E4  
Cont.  
8. (Twice Amended) A method of [generating and] encoding signals to control a plurality of [user] receiver stations comprising the steps of:  
receiving and storing a [program that contains video information] first information transmission containing one of a video image and audio;

[receiving an instruction, said instruction having an effect at said plurality of user stations to transmit said program according to a transmission schedule and to log a transmission record of said program;]

receiving a second information transmission, wherein said second information transmission which is effective to control a first of said plurality of receiver stations to transmit said first information transmission and to control a second of said plurality of

receiver stations to identify and process at least a portion of said transmitted first information transmission;

encoding said second information transmission into a control signal, said control signal for controlling predetermined receiver stations of said plurality of receiver stations by processing locally stored receiver station specific data; and

84  
Conced  
[encoding said instruction, said step of encoding translating said instruction to a control signal, said control signal for directing a processor at a user station to perform said effect indicated by said instruction with said program, said control signal interacting with predetermined user data, said predetermined user data being potentially different at each of said plurality of user stations; and]

storing said [directing and interacting] control signal from said step of encoding.

9. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein [supplemental program material is stored at the location of said processor and] said control signal from said step of encoding directs [said] a processor to process supplemental program material and generate a video overlay that is [coordinated] presented with said one of a video [information in said program] image and audio, said method further comprising one step of the group consisting of:

storing said supplemental program material in conjunction with [said program and] said control signal; and

storing a second control signal in conjunction with [said program and] said control signal from said step of encoding, said second control signal having effect at a user station to one of query a remote station and receive said supplemental program material in one of a broadcast and a cablecast transmission.

85  
CMT  
10. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said control signal from said step of encoding directs [said] a processor to generate a video overlay that is



E5  
Candl  
coordinated with said one of a video [information in said program] image and audio,  
said method further one step of the group consisting of:

transmitting a combined [video] signal from said [program] one of a video image  
and audio and said video overlay generated by said processor over a broadcast or  
cablecast network to a plurality of receiver stations; and

[transmitting a combined video signal from] outputting said [program] one of a  
video image and audio and said video overlay generated by said processor [to] at a co-  
located video display.

E6  
Cont  
11. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 8, further comprising the steps  
of:  
receiving [a second] an instruction, said [second] instruction being one of the  
group consisting of:

(1) an instruction which is effective at a user station to generate some output  
to be associated with said [program] one of a video image and audio;

(2) an instruction which is effective at a user station to generate some output  
to be associated with a product, service, or information presentation;

(3) an instruction which is effective at a user station to display one of a  
combined and a sequential presentation of a mass medium program and a user specific  
datum;

(4) an instruction which is effective at a user station to process a user reaction  
to said [program] one of a video image and audio;

(5) an instruction which is effective at a user station to communicate to a  
remote station a query in respect of information to one of be associated with said  
[program] one of a video image and audio and to enable display of said [program] one  
of a video image and audio;

(6) an instruction which is effective at a user station to control a user station  
to receive information to supplement said [program] one of a video image and audio;

(7) an instruction which is effective at a user station to process a digital [television] signal which [is separately defined from analog] contains television programming; and

El Cont- (8) an instruction which is effective at a user station to serve as a basis for enabling an output device to one of display at least [some] a portion of said [program] one of a video image and audio and for enabling a processor to process [some] executable code[.];

encoding said [second] instruction, said second step of encoding translating said [second] instruction to a second control signal, said second control signal for directing one of said [ancillary processor] said plurality of receiver stations to perform said specified second effect indicated by said [second] instruction with said [program] one of a video image and audio; and

storing said second control signal from said second step of encoding in conjunction with said [program] one of a video image and audio.

12. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 8, further having one the group consisting of:

embedding said control signal in the non-visible portion of a television signal;

embedding [a] code in said [program] one of a video image and audio that enables one of a computer and a controller to control a presentation of said [program] one of a video image and audio in accordance with said control signal;

communicating a program unit identification code and storing said program unit identification code at a storage location associated with said [program] one of a video image and audio; and

communicating to and storing at a storage location associated with said [program] one of a video image and audio [some] a portion of information to evidence one of an availability, use, and a usage of said [program] one of a video image and audio at a user station.

86  
Cont.

13. (Twice Amended) A method of communicating data [and update material] to a network of [a plurality of] data receiver stations each of which includes [one of a broadcast and] a [cablecast] data receiver, a data storage device, a control signal detector, a computer capable of processing said data, with each of said [plurality of] data receiver stations adapted to detect and respond to at least one [instruct] control signal and to store [at least one datum of] said data for subsequent processing, and with at least one of said data receiver stations [wherein a first of said plurality of data receiver stations] further [includes an intermediate] including a transmitter, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving said data [and delivering said data to] to be transmitted from at least one origination [transmitter] station;

receiving said at least one [instruct] control signal to be transmitted from said origination station, wherein said at least one [instruct] control signal is effective in said network to [cause said first of said plurality of receiver stations to identify said data and transmit said identified data to a second of said plurality of receiver stations according to a transmission schedule and to cause one of said first and said second of said plurality of receiver stations to log transmission of said identified data] control a first of said data receiver stations to transmit said data and to control a second of said data receiver stations to identify and process at least a portion of said transmitted data; and

[transferring said at least one instruct signal to said at least one origination transmitter; and]

transmitting an [one of a broadcast and a cablecast] information transmission from said origination station comprising said [identified] received data and said received at least one [instruct] control signal.

14. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein one of (i) identification data and (ii) said at least one [instruct] control signal is embedded in a television signal containing said data.

15. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein two of said plurality of receiver stations [one of receives and responds to] stores said at least one instruct signal [concurrently].

16. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein each of said plurality of receiver stations responds to said at least one [instruct] control signal at a different time.

17. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising the steps of receiving said data at a receiver, communicating said data from said receiver to a memory location, and storing said data at said memory location for a period of time prior to communicating said data to one of said [at least one origination transmitter and said intermediate] transmitter.

18. (Twice Amended) A method of communicating [program material] mass medium programming to a network of [a plurality of] programming receiver stations each of which includes [one of] a [broadcast and a cablecast program] programming receiver, an output device, a control signal detector, a processor operatively connected to said output device, with each of said programming receiver [station] stations adapted to detect and respond to at least one [instruct] control signal, [wherein a first of said plurality of receiver stations further includes an intermediate] and with at least one of said programming receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving [a program] mass medium programming to be transmitted from an origination station [and delivering said program to at least one origination transmitter, wherein said program includes one of (i) audio and (ii) a command which executes processor instructions contained in said program];

receiving [said] at least one [instruct] control signal to be transmitted from said origination station, wherein said at least one control signal is effective in said network to control a first of said programming receiver stations to transmit said mass medium programming and to control a second of said programming receiver stations to identify and process at least a portion of said transmitted mass medium programming [wherein said at least one instruct signal is operative in said network to identify said program and transmit said identified program from said intermediate transmitter according to a transmission schedule and log transmission of said identified program from one of said at least one origination transmitter at said intermediate transmitter]; and

[transferring said at least one instruct signal to said at least one origination transmitter; and]

transmitting an information transmission from said [at least one] origination [transmitter] station [an information transmission] comprising said [identified] received mass medium [program] programming and said received at least one [instruct] control signal.

19. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein one of (i) identification data and (ii) said at least one [instruct] instruct signal is embedded in a mass medium program signal containing said [program] mass medium programming.

20. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein two of said [plurality of] receiver stations [one of receive and respond to] store said at least one instruct signal concurrently.

21. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein each of said plurality of receiver stations responds to said at least one [instruct] control signal at a different time.

22. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 18, further comprising the steps of receiving said [program] mass medium programming at a receiver in a transmitter station, communicating said [program] mass medium programming from said receiver to a memory location, and storing said [program] mass medium programming at said memory location for a period of time prior to communicating said [program] mass medium programming to said [intermediate] transmitter.

23. (Twice Amended) A method of controlling a network of [a plurality of] receiver stations each of which includes [one of a broadcast and] a [cablecast] signal receiver, [at least one processor,] a signal detector, said signal detector adapted to receive signals from [one of a broadcast and a cablecast signal] an information transmission, and [said] a processor programmed to respond to signals from said detector, with at least one of said [plurality of] receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method [of controlling] comprising the steps of:

receiving at [one of a broadcast and a cablecast transmitter station an instruct] least one control signal to be transmitted from an origination station, said at least one control signal [which is] effective in [at] said [plurality of receiver stations] network to [transmit said instruct signal according to a transmission schedule and log transmission of said instruct signal] control a first of said receiver stations to transmit said information transmission and to control a second of receiver stations to identify and process at least a portion of said transmitted information transmission;

[transferring said instruct signal to a transmitter at said transmitter station;]

86 Contd  
receiving at least one [control] designation signal to be transmitted from said origination station, [at said transmitter station,] said at least one [control] designation signal designating at least one receiver station of said [plurality] network of receiver stations to which said [instruct] at least one control signal is addressed; and  
[transferring] transmitting said information transmission from said origination station, said information transmission comprising said received at least one control signal and said received at least one designation signal [said at least one control signal from said transmitter station to said transmitter at said transmitter station, said transmitter station one of broadcasting and cablecasting said instruct signal and said at least one control signal to said plurality of receiver stations;  
thereby controlling a network of a plurality of receiver stations].

24. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein a portion of one of said [instruct] at least one control signal and said [control] at least one designation signal is embedded in [the] a non-visible portion of one of a television signal and one of a multichannel broadcast and a multichannel cablecast signal which contains video.

87 Contd  
25. (Once Amended) A method of processing signals in a network, said network having at least one transmitter station and at least one receiver station, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting a signal and a transmission schedule associated with said signal, said schedule comprising at least one of:

- (1) a time at which to transmit said signal; and
  - (2) one of a [channel] frequency and an output network on which to transmit said signal;
- transmitting said signal according to said schedule;

selecting at least a portion of information communicated one of to said transmitter and from said transmitter; and

comparing said selected at least a portion of information to information of said schedule, thereby to determine proper transmission of said signal according to said schedule;

wherein said method processes signals in said network.

26. (Once Amended) A method of transmitting signals in a network, said network having a transmitter station and a receiver station, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting a signal and a transmission schedule associated with said signal, said schedule including at least one of:

(1) a time at which to transmit said signal; and

(2) one of a frequency and an output network on which to transmit said signal;

transmitting said signal according to said schedule;

selecting a portion of said signal; and

comparing said selected portion of said signal to information stored in said network; and

determining one of a transmission time and a transmission location of said signal.

[A method of processing signals to control a plurality of subscriber stations, each subscriber station having at least one processor, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a programming signal which contains mass medium programming and communicating said programming signal to a storage device;

receiving at least one instruct signal which is effective to instruct said plurality of subscriber stations to compare information contained in said programming signal to a



transmission schedule and transmit said programming signal according to said schedule;

selecting one of:

- 27 Cont
- (1) a time to communicate a first instruct signal, said first instruct signal being one of said at least one instruct signal; and
  - (2) a storage location to which to communicate said first instruct signal

to;

communicating said first instruct signal based on one of at said selected time and said selected storage location; and

storing said programming signal and said first instruct signal at said storage device;

wherein said method processes signals to control a plurality of subscriber stations.]

27. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said control signal controls said first of said plurality of receiver stations to compare said information transmission to a programming schedule and to transmit said information transmission according to said programming schedule. [26, further comprising the step of: embedding said first instruct signal in said programming signal.]

28. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said control signal transmits said information transmission according to a programming schedule and logs transmission of said information transmission. [26, wherein said selected storage location is embedded in said programming signal at said storage device, said method further comprising the step of storing some information at said storage device that evidences at least one of:

- (1) a title of a television program;

- 21 Cont.
- (2) an intended use of programming;
  - (3) a transmission station;
  - (4) a receiver station;
  - (5) a network;
  - (6) a broadcast station;
  - (7) a channel on a cable system;
  - (8) a time of transmission;
  - (9) a identification of an instruct signal;
  - (10) a source of data;
  - (11) a publication;
  - (12) an indication of copyright;
  - (13) a supplier of data;
  - (14) an article;
  - (15) a publisher;
  - (16) a distributor; and
  - (17) an advertisement.]

29. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said control signal transmits said information transmission according to a programming schedule and generates statistics pertaining to said information transmission. [26, said method further comprising the steps of:

selecting a datum that performs at least one of:

- (1) identifying computer software in said programming signal;
- (2) specifying some of a way to instruct receiver end equipment what specific programming to select one of to play and record other than that immediately at hand, how to load it on one of a player and recorder equipment, when and how to one of play it and record it other than immediately, how to modify it, one of what

equipment, channel and channels to transmit it on, when to transmit it, and how and where to one of file it, refile it and dispose of it;

- 97 Cont.
- (3) designating an addressed apparatus;
  - (4) specifying at least one of where, when and how to locate a signal;
  - (5) informing a processor of a technique for identifying and processing a signal;
  - (6) enabling decryption;
  - (7) designating a communication schedule; and
- embedding said selected datum in said programming signal.]

30. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said control signal transmits said information transmission according to a programming schedule and identifies content of said information transmission. [26, wherein said storage device comprises a file storage medium wherein said programming signal and said first instruct signal are stored in a file on said file storage medium, said method further comprising the steps of:

selecting a second instruct signal, said second instruct signal being at least one of:

- (1) a switch control signal;
- (2) a timing control signal;
- (3) a locating control signal;
- (4) an instruct-to-contact signal that designates a remote receiver station;
- (5) an instruct-to-transfer signal that designates programming;
- (6) an instruct-to-delay signal that designates programming;
- (7) one of an instruct-to-decrypt and an instruct-to-interrupt signal that designates programming and one of a method of decryption and interruption;

(8) one of an instruct-to-enable and an instruct-to-disable signal that designates an apparatus;

(9) an instruct-to-record signal that designates programming;

(10) an instruction signal that controls a multimedia presentation;

(11) an instruction signal that governs a receiver station environment;

(12) an instruct-to-power-on signal that designates a receiver;

(13) an instruct-to-tune signal that designates one of a receiver and a frequency;

(14) an instruct-to-coordinate signal that designates two apparatus;

(15) an instruct-to-compare signal that designates one of a news transmission and a computer input;

(16) an identifier signal that causes a computer to instruct a plurality of tuners each to tune to one of a broadcast and a cablecast transmission;

(17) an instruct-to-coordinate signal that designates multiple units of multimedia information and one of an output time and an output place;

(18) an instruct-to-generate signal that designates an output datum;

(19) an instruct-to-transmit signal that designates a computer output;

(20) an instruct-to-overlay signal that designates a video image;

(21) an instruct-that-if signal that designates a function to perform if a predetermined condition exists;

(22) an instruct-to-enable-and-deliver signal that designates information that supplements a video image;

(23) an instruct-to-transmit signal that designates a computer peripheral storage device;

(24) a code signal that designates a datum to one of remove and embed;  
and

(25) a signal addressed to a receiver station apparatus; and

storing said selected second instruct signal in said file on said file storage medium.]

31. (Once Amended) A method of processing a signal in a system comprising a transmitter station and a receiver station, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting to said transmitter station said signal and a transmission schedule associated with said signal, said signal including a first identifier, said schedule including a second identifier and at least one of:

(1) a time at which to transmit said signal; and

(2) one of a frequency and an output network on which to transmit said signal;

transmitting said signal to said receiver station according to said schedule based on a comparison of said first identifier and said second identifier;

selecting a portion of said signal at said receiver station; and

inputting said selected portion of said signal to a processor for gathering statistics on programming availability, use or usage.

[A method of encoding signals to control at least one of a plurality of subscriber stations, each subscriber station having at least one processor, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving and storing a program that contains video information;

receiving an instruction, said instruction having effect at said plurality of subscriber stations to compare information communicated in said program to a transmission schedule and transmit said program according to said schedule;

encoding said instruction, said step of encoding translating said instruction to a control signal, said control signal directing a processor at at least one of said subscriber stations to perform said transmission of said program and said information, said control

signal interacting with predetermined subscriber data, said predetermined subscriber data being specific for each of said plurality of subscriber stations; and  
storing said control signal.]

32. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said control signal transmits said information transmission according to a programming schedule and outputs an identifier of said information transmission to a remote data collection station. [31, wherein supplemental program material is stored at the same location as said processor and said control signal directs said processor to generate a video overlay that is coordinated with said video information in said program, said method further comprising the step of:

storing said supplemental program material in conjunction with said program and said control signal.]

33. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said control signal identifies content of said information transmission and controls a switch to communicate said content. [31, wherein said control signal directs said processor to generate a video overlay that is coordinated with said video information in said program, said method further comprising the step of:

transmitting a combined video signal from said program and said video overlay generated by said processor to a plurality of receiver stations.]

34. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said control signal identifies content of said information transmission [based on information content in said information transmission] and delays transmission of said content. [31, further comprising the steps of:

receiving a second instruction, said second instruction being one of:

27  
Cont

(1) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of subscriber stations to generate some output to be associated with said program;

(2) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of subscriber stations to generate some output to be associated with at least one of a product, service and an information presentation;

(3) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of subscriber stations to display one of a combined and sequential presentation of a mass medium programming presentation and a subscriber specific datum;

(4) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of subscriber stations to process a subscriber reply to said program;

(5) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of subscriber stations to one of communicate to a remote station a query in respect of information to be associated with said program;

(6) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of subscriber stations to control said at least one of said plurality of subscriber stations to receive information to supplement said program;

(7) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of subscriber stations to process a digital television signal; and

(8) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of subscriber stations to serve as a basis for one of (a) enabling an output device to display at least some of said program and (b) enabling a processor to process some downloadable code;

encoding said second instruction, said second step of encoding translating said second instruction to a second control signal, said second control signal for directing said processor; and

storing said second control signal.]

35. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said control signal selects a storage location and stores a portion of said information transmission at said selected storage location. [31, further comprising the step of:

embedding said control signal in the non-visible portion of a television signal.]

36. (Once Amended) A method of processing a signal in a system having a transmitter station and a receiver station, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting said signal at said transmitter station, said signal including programming and an identifier;

inputting a schedule at said transmitter station, said schedule including at least one of:

(1) a time at which to transmit a portion of said signal; and

(2) one of a frequency and an output network on which to transmit a portion of said signal;

transmitting said portion of signal from said transmitter station according to said schedule based on a comparison performed with said identifier;

processing said signal to gather at least one statistic on availability, use or usage of said programming at said receiver station; and

identifying one of said signal and content of said signal at said receiver station on the basis of said identifier.

[A method of communicating data and update material to a network, said network having a plurality of receiver stations each of which includes a data receiver, a data storage device, a control signal detector, a computer, each of said plurality of receiver stations adapted to detect and respond to at least one instruct signal and to store said data for subsequent processing, and with at least one of said plurality of receiver stations further including an intermediate transmitter, said method of communicating comprising the steps of:



receiving said data to be transmitted at an origination station and delivering said data to an origination transmitter, said data including a plurality of images to be outputted at said receiver station in a predetermined sequence;

receiving said at least one instruct signal which is effective in said network to compare information contained in at least one of said data and said at least one instruct signal to a transmission schedule and transmit said data according to said schedule, said schedule effective to cause transmission of said plurality of images in said predetermined sequence;

transferring said at least one instruct signal to said origination transmitter; and  
transmitting an information transmission comprising said data and said at least one instruct signal.]

37. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein control signal further delays transmission of said information transmission. [36, wherein at least one of said data and said at least one instruct signal is embedded in a television signal containing said data.]

38. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said control signal further controls said second of said plurality of receiver stations to receive said information transmission. [36, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at the same time and each of said plurality of receiver stations one of receives and responds to said at least one instruct signal concurrently.]

39. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said control signal transmits said information transmission according to a transmission schedule and controls said second of said plurality of receiver stations to store said information

27  
Cont.  
transmission. [36, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at different times and each of said plurality of receiver stations responds to said at least one instruct signal at a different time.]

40. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said control signal transmits said information transmission at a specific time and generates and outputs information. [36, further comprising the steps of:

receiving said data at said data receiver;  
communicating said data from said data receiver to a storage location; and  
storing said data at said storage location for a period of time prior to  
communicating said data to said origination transmitter.]

41. (Once Amended) A method of communicating a plurality of signals, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting a signal, said signal including programming and an identifier;  
inputting a schedule including a designation for each of said plurality of signals  
at least one of

(1) an approximate transmission time, and  
(2) one of a transmission frequency and an output network;  
transferring said signal to a distribution system of a transmission station  
according to said schedule;

identifying one of said signal based on said identifier; and  
outputting said identifier from a storage location to a remote location.

[A method of communicating a program to a network, said network having a plurality of receiver stations each of which includes a program receiver, an output device, a control signal detector, a processor operably connected to said output device,

27  
Cont.  
with each of said plurality of receiver stations adapted to detect and respond to at least one instruct signal, and with at least one of said plurality of receiver stations further including an intermediate transmitter, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving said program to be transmitted at an origination station and delivering said program to an origination transmitter, said program being mass medium programming including audio;

receiving said at least one instruct signal at said origination station, said at least one instruct signal in said network operates to compare information contained in at least one of said program and said at least one instruct signal to a transmission schedule and transmit said program according to said schedule;

transferring said at least one instruct signal to said origination transmitter; and  
transmitting from said origination station an information transmission comprising said program and said at least one instruct signal.]

42. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said control signal further generates information to complete said information transmission and outputs said generated information with said information transmission. [41, wherein at least one of identification data and said at least one instruct signal is embedded in a mass medium program signal containing said program.]

43. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein control signal transmits said information transmission according to a programming schedule and processes a response to information contained in said information transmission. [41, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at the same time and each of said plurality of receiver stations one of receives and responds to said at least one instruct signal concurrently.]

44. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said control signal transmits said information transmission according to a programming schedule and controls the output of said information transmission at said second of said plurality of receiver stations. [41, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at different times and each of said plurality of receiver stations responds to said at least one instruct signal at a different time.]

45. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said control signal decrypts a portion of said information transmission and controls the output of said information decrypted in said information transmission. [41, further comprising the steps of:

receiving said program at a program receiver in said origination station;  
communicating said program from said program receiver to a storage location;  
and

storing said program at said storage location for a period of time prior to  
communicating said program to said origination transmitter.]

46. (Once Amended) A method of transmitting one of a plurality of signals comprising the steps of:

inputting a signal, said signal including programming and an identifier;  
inputting a schedule to a controller for controlling a transmission station, said schedule including for each of said plurality of signals at least one of

(1) an approximate transmission time; and

(2) one of a transmission frequency and an output network;

transmitting said signal according to said schedule;

identifying said signal at a receiver station on the basis of said identifier; and

outputting said identifier to a remote location.

27  
cont  
[A method of controlling a network, said network comprising a plurality of receiver stations each of which includes a signal receiver, at least one processor, a signal detector, and said processor being programmed to respond to signals received from said signal detector, with at least one of said plurality of receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving at an origination station an instruct signal which is effective at said plurality of receiver stations to compare information contained in said instruct signal to a transmission schedule and transmit said instruct signal according to said schedule;

transferring said instruct signal from said origination station to said origination transmitter;

receiving at least one control signal at said origination station, said control signal designating at least one receiver station of said plurality of receiver stations to which said instruct signal is addressed; and

transferring said at least one control signal from said origination station to said origination transmitter, said origination station transmitting said instruct signal and said at least one control signal to said plurality of receiver stations.]

47. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said control signal transmits said information transmission according to a schedule and outputs said information transmission as a portion of a multimedia presentation. [46, wherein at least one of said instruct signal and said control signal is embedded in the non-visible portion of one of a) a television signal and b) one of a multichannel broadcast and cablecast signal which contains video.]

48. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said first of said plurality of receiver stations and said second of said plurality of receiver stations each

identify content of said information transmission by processing said control signal, said method further comprising the step of including an identifier in said control signal. [26, further comprising the step of:

87  
Ent. , embedding a code in said programming signal that enables said processor to control a presentation of said mass medium programming in accordance with said first instruct signal.]

49. (Once Amended) The method of claim 48, wherein said identifier identifies one of television and radio programming, said method further comprising the step of including said one of television and radio programming in said information transmission. [26, further comprising the steps of: communicating a program identification code to said storage device and storing said program identification code at a storage location associated with said programming signal.]

50. (Once Amended) The method of claim 48, wherein said identifier identifies one of video and audio, said method further comprising the step of including said one of video and audio in said information transmission. [26, further comprising the steps of:

communicating to and storing at said storage device regarding one of an availability and use of one of said programming signal and said mass medium programming at said subscriber station.]

51. (Once Amended) The method of claim 48, wherein said identifier identifies one of a datum and an instruction, said method further comprising the step of including said one of a datum and an instruction in said information transmission. [26, further comprising the steps of:

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective at said subscriber station to generate output to be associated with at least one of said programming signal and said mass medium.]

E2 Cont. 52. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said first of said plurality of receiver stations and said second of said plurality of receiver stations each monitor one of availability, use, and usage of content of said information transmission, said method further comprising the step of including in said information transmission a portion of information to be processed that identifies said content of said information transmission. [26, further comprising the steps of:

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to generate output to be associated with at least one of a product and service, said at least one of a product and service being offered in said mass medium programming.]

53. (Once Amended) The method of claim 52, wherein said portion of information is stored at said storage device based on said step of communicating, said method further comprising the step of including said control signal in said information transmission before storing said control signal. [26, further comprising the steps of:

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to display one of a combined presentation and sequential presentation of a mass medium program and a subscriber specific datum.]

54. (Once Amended) The method of claim 53, wherein said portion of information includes code which is operative to control said processor at each of said plurality of receiver stations, said method further comprising the step of including said code in said control signal. [26, further comprising the steps of:

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to process a subscriber reply to said mass medium.]

55. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein one of said first of said plurality of receiver stations and said second of said plurality of receiver stations is programmed to process said control signal based on one of a transmission location and time and wherein said step of communicating comprises inputting said control signal to said storage device in a fashion which enables said storage device to output said control signal in said one of a transmission location and time. [26, further comprising the steps of:

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to perform one of (a) communicate to a remote station a query in respect of information to be associated with said programming signal and (b) to enable the display of said mass medium programming.]

56. (Once Amended) The method of claim 55, wherein said one of said first of said plurality of receiver stations and said second of said plurality of receiver stations is programmed to process said control signal based on one of an interval of time and a predetermined time. [26, further comprising the steps of:

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to control said subscriber station to receive information to supplement one of said programming signal and said mass medium programming.]

57. (Once Amended) The method of claim 55, wherein said one of said first of said plurality of receiver stations and said second of said plurality of receiver stations is programmed to process said control signal based on a location in said information transmission. [26, further comprising the steps of:



communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to process a digital television signal.]

E7 Cont. 58. (Once Amended) The method of claim 57, further comprising the step of embedding said control signal in said information transmission. [26, further comprising the steps of:

communicating to and storing at said storage device at least one of code and a datum to serve as a basis for one of (a) enabling an output device to display at least a portion of said mass medium programming and (b) enabling a processor to process some downloadable code.]

59. (Once Amended) The method of claim 57, further comprising the step of performing said step of encoding before a portion of said information transmission is communicated to said storage device. [31, wherein supplemental program material is stored at the same location as said processor and said control signal directs said processor to generate a video overlay that is coordinated with said video information in said program, said method further comprising the step of:

storing a second control signal in conjunction with said program and said control signal from said step of encoding, said second control signal having effect at at least one of said plurality of subscriber stations to one of query a remote station and receive said supplemental program material in one of a broadcast and a cablecast transmission.]

60. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of: including in one of said information transmission and said control signal a first portion of information which enables one of said plurality of receiver stations to select one of a second portion of information and a device to which to communicate a second portion of information. [1, wherein said control directs said processor to generate a

video overlay that is coordinated with said video information in said program, said method comprising the step of:

transmitting a combined video signal from said program and said video overlay generated by said processor to a co-located video display.]

Ent. 61. (Once Amended) The method of claim 60, further comprising the steps of:

communicating said second portion of information to said storage device; and  
storing said second portion of information at said storage device. [31, further comprising the step of:

embedding a code in said program that enables one of a computer and a controller to control a presentation of said program in accordance with said control signal.]

62. (Once Amended) The method of claim 61, wherein said device to which to communicate said second portion of information comprises a computer and said second portion of information includes a first instruction to be communicated to said computer, said method further comprising the step of including said second portion of information in said control signal. [31, further comprising the steps of:

communicating a program identification code and storing said program identification code at a storage location associated with said program.]

63. (Once Amended) The method of claim 62, wherein signal content enables said one of said plurality of receiver stations to communicate to a remote station information evidencing one of (i) receipt of a portion of said information transmission and (ii) a function performed in response to a portion of said information transmission,

said method further comprising the step of including said signal content in one of said information transmission and said control signal. [31, further comprising the steps of:

communicating to and storing at a storage location associated with said program information to evidence one of an availability and use of said program at at least one of said plurality of subscriber stations.]

64. (Once Amended) A method of communicating a signal comprising the steps of:

inputting a signal, said signal including (i) specific programming including one of video, audio and data programming and (ii) an embedded identifier;

inputting said signal to a switch and a processor;

determining said specific programming inputted to said switch;

controlling said switch to communicate said specific programming according to timing instructions; and

delaying communication of said signal.

[A method of processing a signal in a system having at least one transmitter station and at least one subscriber station, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting to said at least one transmitter station said signal, said signal including programming and an identification datum;

inputting to said at least one transmitter station a transmission schedule, said schedule including at least one of:

(1) a time at which to transmit said signal; and

(2) a channel on which to transmit said signal;

transmitting said signal from said transmitter station according to said schedule based on a comparison performed with said identification datum;

processing said signal to gather at least one statistic on an availability, use or usage of said programming at said at least one subscriber station; and

identifying said signal at said at least one subscriber station on the basis of said identification datum.]

65. (Once Amended) A method of processing signals comprising the steps  
of:  
inputting a plurality of signals to a transmission station, wherein each of said  
plurality of signals includes (i) one of specific video programming, audio programming,  
and data programming and (ii) an identifier;  
inputting at said transmission station each of said plurality of signals to a switch  
having a plurality of output channels;  
processing each signal of said plurality of signals to determine that each of said  
one of specific video programming, audio programming, and data programming is  
input to said switch;  
comparing said identifier of each signal of said plurality of signals to  
predetermined data to determine when to transmit each signal of said plurality of  
signals; and  
communicating an instruction to delay communication of one signal of said  
plurality of signals.

[A method of communicating signals to control a plurality of user stations, each user station having a processor and being one of a transmitter station and a receiver station, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a programming signal which contains mass medium programming and communicating said programming signal to a storage device;

receiving at least one first instruct signal which is effective to instruct said transmitter station to transmit said programming signal and said first instruct signal according to a transmission schedule and said receiver station to identify said programming signal;

selecting one of the group consisting of:

- 27  
Cont.
- (1) a time at which to communicate said at least one first instruct signal; and
  - (2) a memory location in said storage device to which to communicate said at least one first instruct signal;
- communicating said at least one first instruct signal at said selected time or to said selected memory location; and
- storing said programming signal and said at least one first instruct signal at said storage device.]

66. (Once Amended) The method of claim 63, wherein said first portion of information controls said one of said plurality of receiver stations and said signal content is communicated to said remote station, said method further comprising one step from the group consisting of:

- including an identifier in said signal content;
- including said signal content in said first portion of information; and
- including said first portion of information in said control signal. [5, further comprising one step from the group consisting of:
  - embedding said at least one first instruct signal in said programming signal;
  - embedding a code in said programming signal that enables a processor to control a presentation of said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal in accordance with said at least one first instruct signal;
  - communicating a program unit identification code to said storage device and storing said program unit identification code at a memory location associated with said programming signal;

communicating to and storing at said storage device some information to evidence an availability, use, or usage of said programming signal or said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal at a user station;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective at a user station to generate some output to be associated with said programming signal or said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to generate some output to be associated with a product, service, or information presentation;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to display a combined or sequential presentation of a mass medium program and a user specific datum;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to process a user reaction to said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to communicate to a remote station a query for information to be associated with said programming signal or to enable display of said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to control a user station to receive information to supplement said programming signal or said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to process a digital television signal; and

communicating to and storing at said storage device a code or datum to serve as a basis for enabling an output device to display at least some of said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal or for enabling a processor to process some processor code.]

67. (Once Amended) The method of claim 60, wherein said one of said plurality of receiver stations includes a computer and a plurality of first instructions program said computer to respond to one of a command and a second instruction, said method further comprising one step of the group consisting of:

storing said plurality of first instructions at said storage device; and

storing said one of a command and a second instruction at said storage device.

[65, wherein said at least one first instruct signal is embedded on said programming signal at said storage device, said method further comprising the step of storing some information at said storage device that evidences one or more of:

- (1) a title of a television program;
- (2) a proper use of programming;
- (3) a transmission station;
- (4) a receiver station;
- (5) a network;
- (6) a broadcast station;
- (7) a channel on a cable system;
- (8) a time of transmission;
- (9) an identification of an instruct signal;
- (10) a source or supplier of data;
- (11) a distributor or an advertisement; and
- (12) an indication of copyright.]

68. (Once Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said control signal controls said first of said plurality of receiver stations to transmit said information transmission to said second of said plurality of receiver stations to control said second of said plurality of receiver stations. [65, said method further comprising the steps of:

selecting one from the group consisting of:

- 27 Cont.
- (1) a datum that identifies a unit of computer software in said programming signal;
  - (2) a datum that specifies some of a way to instruct receiver end equipment what specific programming to select to play or record other than that immediately at hand, how to load said specific programming on player or recorder equipment, when and how to play or record said specific programming other than immediately, how to modify said specific programming, what equipment or channel or channels to transmit said specific programming on, when to transmit said specific programming, and how and where to file or refile or dispose of said specific programming;
  - (3) a datum that designates an addressed apparatus;
  - (4) a datum that specifies where, when, or how to locate a signal;
  - (5) a datum that informs a processor of a fashion for identifying and processing a signal;
  - (6) a datum that is part of a decryption code; and
- embedding said selected one in said programming signal.]

69. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said control signal controls said first of said plurality of receiver stations to compare said first information transmission to a programming schedule and to transmit said first information transmission according to said programming schedule. [65, wherein said storage device comprises a file storage medium and said programming signal and said at least one first



instruct signal are stored in a file on said file storage medium, said method further comprising the steps of:

selecting a second instruct signal, said second instruct signal being one from the group consisting of:

- El Cont.
- (1) a switch control signal;
  - (2) a timing control signal;
  - (3) a locating control signal;
  - (4) an instruct-to-contact signal that designates a remote receiver station;
  - (5) an instruct-to-transfer signal that designates a unit of broadcast or cablecast programming;
  - (6) an instruct-to-delay signal that designates a unit of broadcast or cablecast programming;
  - (7) an instruct-to-decrypt or instruct-to-interrupt signal that designates a unit of programming and a way to decrypt or interrupt;
  - (8) an instruct-to-enable or instruct-to-disable signal that designates an apparatus;
  - (9) an instruct-to-record signal that designates a broadcast or cablecast program;
  - (10) an instruction signal that controls a media presentation;
  - (11) an instruction signal that governs a broadcast or cablecast receiver station environment;
  - (12) an instruct-to-power-on signal that designates a receiver;
  - (13) an instruct-to-tune signal that designates a receiver or a frequency;
  - (14) an instruct-to-coordinate signal that designates two apparatus;
  - (15) an instruct-to-compare signal that designates a news transmission or a computer input;

(16) an identifier signal that causes a computer to instruct a plurality of tuners each to tune to a broadcast or cablecast transmission;

(17) an instruct-to-coordinate signal that designates two units of multimedia information and one of: (1) an output time and (2) an output place;

(18) an instruct-to-generate signal that designates an output datum;

(19) an instruct-to-transmit signal that designates a computer output;

(20) an instruct-to-overlay signal that designates a video image;

(21) an instruct signal that designates a function to perform if a predetermined condition exists;

(22) an instruct-to-enable-and-deliver signal that designates information that supplements a video image;

(23) an instruct-to-transmit signal that designates a computer peripheral storage device;

(24) a code signal that designates a datum to remove or embed; and

(25) a signal addressed to a receiver station apparatus; and

storing said selected second instruct signal in said file on said file storage medium.]

70. (Once Amended) A method of communicating a signal comprising the steps of:

inputting a signal to a switch at a transmission station, said signal including an identifier and one of video and audio, said switch having a plurality of output channels;

comparing said identifier to a predetermined datum to determine one of (i) a time to transmit said signal and (ii) whether to delay transmission of said signal;

selecting a storage location; and

communicating said signal to said selected storage location.

[A method of encoding signals to control a plurality of user stations, each of said user stations being one of a transmitter station and a receiver station, comprising the steps of:

receiving and storing a program that contains video information;

receiving an instruction, said instruction being effective at said transmitter station to transmit said received and stored program according to a transmission schedule and at said receiver station to identify said received and stored program;

encoding said instruction, into a first control signal for directing a processor at at least one of said plurality of user stations, said first control signal interacting with predetermined user data, said predetermined user data being potentially different at each of said plurality of user stations; and

storing said first control signal in conjunction with said received and stored program.]

71. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said control signal transmits said first information transmission according to a programming schedule and logs transmission of said first information transmission. [70, wherein supplemental program material is stored at the same location as said processor and said first control signal directs said processor to generate a video overlay based on said supplemental material that is coordinated with said video information in said program, said method further comprising the step of

storing a second control signal in conjunction with said program and said first control signal, said second control signal having effect at a user station to query a remote station for said supplemental program material or to receive said supplemental program material in a broadcast or cablecast transmission.]

72. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said control signal transmits said first information transmission according to a programming schedule and generates statistics of said first information transmission. [70, wherein said first control signal directs said processor to generate a video overlay that is coordinated with said video information in said program, said method further including one step from the group consisting of:

transmitting a combined video signal based on said program and said video overlay generated by said processor over a broadcast or cablecast network to a plurality of receiver stations; and

communicating a combined video signal from said program and said video overlay generated by said processor to a co-located video display.]

73. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said control signal transmits said first information transmission according to a programming schedule and identifies the content of said first information transmission. [70, further comprising the steps of:

receiving a second instruction, said second instruction being one of the group consisting of:

(1) an instruction which is effective at a user station to generate some output to be associated with said program;

(2) an instruction which is effective at a user station to generate some output to be associated with a product, service, or information presentation;

(3) an instruction which is effective at a user station to display a combined or sequential presentation of a mass medium program and user specific data;

(4) an instruction which is effective at a user station to process a user reaction to said program;

(5) an instruction which is effective at a user station to communicate to a remote station a query for information to be associated with said program or to enable display of said program;

E7  
Ent.  
(6) an instruction which is effective at a user station to receive information to supplement said program; and

(7) an instruction which is effective at a user station to serve as a basis for enabling an output device to display at least some of said program or for enabling a processor to process some processor code;

encoding said second instruction, said second step of encoding translating said second instruction to a second control signal for directing an ancillary processor to perform said specified effect in accordance with said second instruction; and  
storing said second control signal in conjunction with said program.]

74. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said control signal transmits said first information transmission according to a programming schedule and outputs an identifier of said first information transmission to a remote data collection station. [70, further having one step from the group consisting of:


embedding said first control signal in the non-visible portion of a television signal;

embedding a code in said program that enables a computer or controller to control a presentation of said program in accordance with said first control signal;

communicating a program unit identification code and storing said program unit identification code at a storage location associated with said program; and

communicating to and storing at a storage location associated with said program some information to evidence an availability, use, or usage of said program at a user station.]

75. (Once Amended) A method of processing a plurality of signals comprising the steps of:

 inputting said plurality of signals at a transmission station, each signal of said plurality of signals comprising an identifier and at least one of video programming, audio programming and data programming;

inputting said plurality of signals to a switch having a plurality of output channels;

processing each of said plurality of signals to determine (i) which of said at least one of video programming, audio programming and data programming is input to said switch and (ii) when to transmit each of said plurality of signals;

transmitting said plurality of signals to a processor in a distribution system, said processor having a plurality of output ports;

communicating said plurality of signals to at least one remote location;

determining that transmission of a specific signal of said plurality of signals should be delayed;

selecting a storage location; and

communicating said specific signal to said selected storage location.

[A method of communicating data and update material to a network of data receiver stations each of which includes a broadcast or cablecast data receiver, a data storage device, a control signal detector, a computer capable of processing data, and with each said data receiver stations adapted to detect and respond to instruct signals and to store data for subsequent processing, and with at least one of said plurality of data receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method of communicating comprising the steps of:

receiving data to be transmitted at an origination station and delivering said data to an origination transmitter;

receiving at least one instruct signal at said origination station which in said network is effective at said at least one of said data receiver stations to transmit said data according to a transmission schedule, and to identify said data;

transferring said at least one instruct signal to said origination transmitter; and

transmitting a broadcast or cablecast information transmission comprising said data and said at least one instruct signal.]

76. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said control signal identifies content of said first information transmission and controls a switch to communicate said content. [75, wherein said at least one instruct signal is embedded in a television signal containing said data.]

77. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said control signal identifies content of said first information transmission and delays transmission of said content. [75, wherein said step of transmitting directs said broadcast or cablecast transmission to said plurality of data receiver stations at the same time and each of said plurality of receiver stations receives or responds to said at least one instruct signal concurrently.]

78. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said control signal selects a storage location and stores a portion of said first information transmission at said selected storage location. [75, wherein said step of transmitting directs said broadcast or cablecast transmission to said plurality of data receiver stations at different times and each of said plurality of receiver stations responds to said at least one instruct signal at a different time.]

79. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein control signal further delays transmission of said first information transmission. [75, further comprising the steps of receiving said data at a receiver at said origination station, communicating said data unit from said receiver to a memory location, and storing said data unit at said memory location for a period of time prior to communicating said data unit to said origination transmitter.]

80. (Once Amended) A method of processing signals in a system including a transmission station and a receiver station, said method comprising the steps of:  
programming said receiver station to store user data and select said signals on the basis of said user data;

inputting a programming signal and a comparison signal at said transmission station, said comparison signal designating a transmission schedule;

inputting said transmission schedule, said transmission schedule comprising for each of said signals at least two of:

(1) a transmission time;

(2) an identifier for one of a transmission frequency and an output network;

and

(3) a signal identifier;

transmitting said programming signal and said comparison signal from said transmission station in accordance with said transmission schedule based on said comparison signal;

selecting information detected in one of said programming signal and said comparison signal at said receiver station;

comparing said selected information to said user data; and



receiving a portion of an information transmission containing said programming signal and said comparison signal at said receiver station based on said step of comparing.

ent. [A method of communicating program material to a network of receiver stations each of which includes a broadcast or cablecast program receiver, an output device, a control signal detector, a processor operably connected to said output device, with each receiver station adapted to detect and respond to instruct signals, and with at least one of said plurality of receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method of communicating comprising the steps of:

receiving a program to be transmitted at an origination station and delivering said program to an origination transmitter;

receiving at least one instruct signal at said origination station, said at least one instruct signal effective in said network at said at least one of said receiver stations to transmit said program according to a transmission schedule and to identify said program;

transferring said at least one instruct signal to said origination transmitter; and transmitting from said origination station an information transmission comprising said program and said at least one instruct signal.]

81. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said control signal further controls said second of said plurality of receiver stations to receive said first information transmission. [80, wherein said at least one instruct signal is embedded in a mass medium program signal containing said program.]

82. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said control signal transmits said first information transmission according to a transmission schedule and controls said second of said plurality of receiver stations to store said first information


transmission. [80, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at the same time and each of said plurality of receiver stations receives or responds to said at least one instruct signal concurrently.]

83. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said control signal transmits said first information transmission at a specific time and generates information and outputs information. [80, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at different times and each of said plurality of receiver stations responds to said one or more instruct signals at a different time.]

84. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said control signal further generates information to complete said first information transmission and outputs said generated information with said first information transmission. [80, further comprising the steps of receiving said program at a receiver at said origination station, communicating said program from said receiver to a memory location, and storing said program at said memory location for a period of time prior to communicating said program to said origination transmitter.]

85. (Once Amended) A method of processing a plurality of signals in a system including a transmission station and a receiver station, wherein said receiver station is remote from said transmission station, said method comprising the steps of:  
programming said receiver station to store user data;  
inputting said plurality of signals to said transmission station;  
inputting a transmission schedule associated with said plurality of signals, said transmission schedule identifying a specific schedule for each of said plurality of

signals, each said specific schedule designating for one of said plurality of signals at least two of:

- 
- (1) a transmission time;
  - (2) one of a transmission frequency and an output network; and
  - (3) an identifier;

transmitting one of said plurality of signals in accordance with said transmission schedule;

causing said receiver station to store one of said plurality of signals based on said user data.

[A method of controlling a network of receiver stations each of which includes a broadcast or cablecast signal receiver, at least one processor, a signal detector adapted to detect signals in a broadcast or cablecast signal, and said processor programmed to respond to signals from said detector, with at least one of said plurality of receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method of controlling comprising the steps of:

receiving at an origination station an instruct signal which is effective at said at least one of said plurality of receiver stations to transmit said instruct signal according to a transmission schedule and to identify said instruct signal;

transferring said instruct signal from said origination station to an origination transmitter;

receiving at least one control signal at said origination station, said at least one control signal designating at least one receiver station to which said instruct signal is addressed; and

transferring said at least one control signal to said origination transmitter, said origination station broadcasting or cablecasting said instruct signal and said at least one control signal to said plurality of receiver stations.]

86. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein control signal transmits said first information transmission according to a programming schedule and processes a response to information contained in said first information transmission.  
[85, wherein said instruct signal or said at least one control signal is embedded in the non-visible portion of a television signal or a multichannel broadcast or cablecast signal which contains video.]

87. (Once Amended) A method of communicating a plurality of signals in a network, said network including a transmission station and a remote receiver station, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting said plurality of signals at said transmission station;

inputting a communication schedule associated with said plurality of signals, said communication schedule designating for each signal of said plurality of signals at least two of:

(1) a transmission time;

(2) one of a transmission frequency and an output network; and

(3) a designation code;

communicating each signal of said plurality of signals in accordance with said communication schedule;

inputting a portion of said plurality of signals to a computer at a time when specific information content does not exist;

generating said specific information content in response to said inputted portion of said plurality of signals; and

causing said receiver station to output said specific information content.

[A method of processing signals comprising the steps of:

inputting a plurality of signals to a transmission station, each of said plurality of signals includes one of specific video programming, audio programming, and data programming and an identification datum;

inputting at said transmission station each of said plurality of signals to a switch with a plurality of output channels;

processing each signal of said plurality of signals in order to determine which of said one of a specific video programming, audio programming, and data programming is being input to said switch;

comparing said identification datum to predetermined data in order to determine when to transmit each signal of said plurality of signals; and

communicating an instruction to delay communication of a signal.]

88. (Once Amended) A method of generating information content in a network, said network including a transmission station and a remote receiver station, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting a control signal at said transmission station;

inputting a schedule associated with said control signal, said schedule

designating two of:

(1) a transmission time;

(2) one of a transmission frequency and an output network; and

(3) an identifier;

communicating said control signal in accordance with said schedule at a time when information content does not exist;

inputting said control signal to a computer based on said step of communicating;

generating said information content in response to said control signal, said information content including one of video and a graphic; and

causing a signal generator to add one of said control signal and said generated information content to an output containing television programming at one of said transmission station and said remote receiver station.

E2  
[A method of processing signals to control one of a plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations, each said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations having a processor, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a programming signal which contains mass medium programming which contains audio and communicating said programming signal to a storage device;

receiving at least one instruct signal which is effective to instruct said one of said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations to identify said programming signal by at least one of type and content and delay communication of said programming signal;

selecting at least one of the group consisting of:

(1) a time at which to communicate a first instruct signal of said at least one instruct signal; and

(2) a memory location in order to communicate said first instruct signal of said at least one instruct signal;

communicating said first instruct signal at one of said selected time and to said selected memory location; and

storing said programming signal and said first instruct signal at said storage device.]

89. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said control signal transmits said first information transmission according to a programming schedule and controls the output of said first information transmission at said second of said plurality of receiver stations. [88, further comprising one of the steps of:

embedding said first instruct signal of said at least one instruct signal in said programming signal; and

EG? embedding a code in said programming signal that enables said processor to control a presentation of said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal in accordance with said first instruct signal of said at least one instruct signal.]

90. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said control signal decrypts a portion of said first information transmission. [88, wherein said selected memory location is within said programming signal at said storage device, said method further comprising the step of storing information at said storage device that evidences at least one of:

- (1) a title of a television program;
- (2) a proper use of programming;
- (3) a transmission station;
- (4) a receiver station;
- (5) a network;
- (6) a broadcast station;
- (7) a channel on a cable system;
- (8) a time of transmission;
- (9) a identification of an instruct signal of said at least one instruct signal;
- (10) one of a source and supplier of data;
- (11) one of a publication, article, publisher, distributor, and an advertisement; and
- (12) an indication of copyright.]

91. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said control signal transmits said first information transmission according to a schedule and outputs said first information transmission as a portion of a multimedia presentation. [88, said method further comprising the steps of:

ECnt selecting datum consisting of one that:

- (1) identifies computer software in said programming signal;
  - (2) instructs receiver end equipment one of what specific programming to select to one of play and record other than immediately, how to load said specific programming on one of player equipment and recorder equipment, when and how to one of play said specific programming and record said specific programming other than immediately, how to modify said specific programming, what one of equipment, channel, and channels to transmit said specific programming on, when to transmit said specific programming, and how and where to one of file said specific programming, refile said specific programming, and dispose of said specific programming;
  - (3) designates an addressed apparatus;
  - (4) specifies one of where, when, and how to locate said programming signal;
  - (5) informs said processor of a fashion for identifying and processing said programming signal;
  - (6) is part of a decryption code;
  - (7) is a comparison datum that designates a communication schedule;
- and

embedding said selected one datum in said programming signal.]

92. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said first of said plurality of receiver stations and said second of said plurality of receiver stations each



identify content of said first information transmission by processing said control signal,  
said method further comprising the step of including an identifier in said control signal.

[88, wherein said storage device comprises a file storage medium, said programming signal and said first instruct signal are stored in a file in said file storage medium, said method further comprising the steps of:

selecting a second instruct signal, said second instruct signal being one from the group consisting of:

- (1) a switch control signal;
- (2) a timing control signal;
- (3) a locating control signal;
- (4) an instruct-to-contact signal that designates a remote receiver station;
- (5) an instruct-to-transfer signal that designates one of a unit of broadcast programming and cablecast programming;
- (6) an instruct-to-delay signal that designates said one of a unit of broadcast programming and cablecast programming;
- (7) one of an instruct-to-decrypt and an instruct-to-interrupt signal that designates a unit of programming and a way to one of decrypt and interrupt;
- (8) one of an instruct-to-enable and an instruct-to-disable signal that designates an apparatus;
- (9) an instruct-to-record signal that designates said one of a unit of broadcast programming and cablecast programming;
- (10) an instruction signal that controls a multimedia presentation;
- (11) a second instruction signal that governs one of a broadcast receiver station environment and a cablecast receiver station environment;
- (12) an instruct-to-power-on signal that designates a receiver;

(13) an instruct-to-tune signal that designates one of said receiver and a frequency;

(14) an instruct-to-coordinate signal that designates two apparatus;

(15) an instruct-to-compare signal that designates one of a news transmission and a computer input;

92 Cont (16) an identifier signal that causes a computer to instruct a plurality of tuners each to tune to one of a broadcast transmission and a cablecast transmission;

(17) an instruct-to-coordinate signal that designates two units of multimedia information and one of: (1) an output time and (2) an output place;

(18) an instruct-to-generate signal that designates an output datum;

(19) an instruct-to-transmit signal that designates said computer output;

(20) an instruct-to-overlay signal that designates a video image;

(21) an instruct-that-if signal that designates a function to perform if a predetermined condition exists;

(22) an instruct-to-enable-and-deliver signal that designates information that supplements a video image;

(23) an instruct-to-transmit signal that designates a computer peripheral storage device;

(24) a code signal that designates a datum to one of remove and embed; and

(25) a signal addressed to a receiver station apparatus; and  
storing said selected second instruct signal in said file in said file storage medium.]

93. (Once Amended) A method of processing signals in a network including a transmitter station and a user station, said user station having a processor, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting a plurality of signals at said transmitter station, said plurality of signals including a programming signal and a processor instruction;

inputting a schedule associated with said plurality of signals, said schedule including a designation for each of said plurality of signals of at least two of:

(1) a transmission time;

(2) one of a transmission frequency and an output network; and

(3) an identifier;

communicating said programming signal in accordance with said schedule;

receiving said plurality of signals at said user station and outputting programming contained in said programming signal;

inputting a user response to information contained in said programming signal;  
and

processing said user response in accordance with said processor instruction.

[A method of generating and encoding signals to control a plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations comprising the steps of:

receiving and storing a program that contains at least one of video information and audio information;

receiving an instruction, said instruction having an effect at a series of said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations to identify said program by one of type and content and delay communication of said program, said series including firstly a transmitter station and secondly a receiver station;

encoding said instruction, said step of encoding includes translating said instruction to a control signal, said control signal directs a processor at each one of said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations to perform said effect indicated by said instruction to identify said program, said control signal interacting with predetermined user data, said predetermined user data being potentially different at each of said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations; and

storing said control signal in conjunction with said program based on said step of encoding.]

94. (Once Amended) The method of claim 92, wherein said identifier identifies one of television and radio programming, said method further comprising the step of including said one of television and radio programming in said first information transmission. [93, wherein supplemental program material is stored at said processor, said control signal, based on said step of encoding, directs said processor to generate a video overlay that is coordinated with said video information in said program, said method further comprising one step of the group consisting of:

storing said supplemental program material in conjunction with said program and said control signal; and

storing a second control signal in conjunction with said program and said control signal based on said step of encoding, said second control signal effecting at least one of said plurality of said receiver stations and transmitter stations to one of query a remote station and receive said supplemental program material in one of a broadcast transmission and a cablecast transmission.]

95. (Once Amended) The method of claim 92, wherein said identifier identifies one of video and audio, said method further comprising the step of including said one of video and audio in said first information transmission. [93, wherein said control signal based on said step of encoding directs said processor to generate a video overlay that is coordinated with said video information in said program, said method further comprising one step of the group consisting of:

transmitting a combined video signal from said program and said video overlay generated by said processor over one of a broadcast network and a cablecast network to a plurality of receiver stations; and

transmitting said combined video signal from said program and said video overlay generated by said processor to a co-located video display.]

96. (Once Amended) The method of claim 92, wherein said identifier identifies one of a datum and an instruction, said method further comprising the step of including said one of a datum and an instruction in said first information transmission.

[93, further comprising the steps of:

receiving a second instruction, said second instruction having an effect at one of said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations consisting of one of:

- (1) to generate output to be associated with said program;
- (2) to generate output to be associated with one of a product, a service, and an information presentation;
- (3) to display one of a combined and a sequential presentation of one of a mass medium program and a user specific datum;
- (4) to process a user reaction to said program;
- (5) to communicate to a remote station one of a query of information one of to be associated with said program and to enable display of said program;
- (6) to control said at least one of said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations to receive information to supplement said program;
- (7) to process a digital television signal; and
- (8) to serve as a basis for enabling an output device to display one of at least a portion of said program and for enabling said processor to process an executable code.

encoding said second instruction, said second step of encoding includes translating said second instruction to a second control signal, said second control signal for directing said processor to perform said effect indicated by said second instruction with said program; and

storing said second control signal from said second step of encoding in conjunction with said program.]

97. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said first of said plurality of receiver stations and said second of said plurality of receiver stations each monitor one of availability, use, and usage of content of said first information transmission, said method further comprising the step of including in one of said first information transmission and said second information transmission a portion of information to be processed that identifies said content of said information transmission. [93, further having one of the group consisting of:

embedding said control signal in a non-visible portion of a television signal;  
embedding a code in said program that enables one of a computer and a controller to control a presentation of said program in accordance with said control signal;

communicating a program unit identification code and storing said program unit identification code at a storage location associated with said program; and

communicating to and storing at said storage location associated with said program information to evidence one of an availability, a use, and usage of said program at said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations.]

98. (Once Amended) A method of processing a plurality of signals in a system, wherein said system includes a transmission station and a remote receiver station, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting to said system said plurality of signals, wherein said plurality of signals includes multimedia signals, wherein said multimedia signals include (i) one of video programming and audio programming and (ii) one of computer programming and programming to be printed;

inputting said multimedia signals to one of a switch and a processor at said transmission station;

controlling said one of a switch and a processor to communicate said multimedia signals to said remote receiver station according to a timing instruction;

determining one of a programming kind and subject matter contained in said multimedia signals;

delaying one of processing and communication of a portion of said multimedia signals; and

outputting a multimedia presentation based on said multimedia signals.

[A method of communicating data and updating material to a network of a plurality of data receiver stations each of said plurality of data receiver stations includes one of a broadcast data receiver and a cablecast data receiver, a data storage device, a control signal detector, a computer capable of processing data, each of said plurality of receiver stations adapted to detect and respond to at least one instruct signal and to store said data for subsequent processing, at least one data receiver station of said plurality of data receiver stations further including one of a broadcast transmitter and a cablecast transmitter, said method of communicating comprising the steps of:

- (1) receiving said data to be transmitted and delivering said data to at least one of an origination broadcast transmitter and an origination cablecast transmitter;
- (2) receiving said at least one instruct signal which is effective to identify said data by one of type and content and causes a series of said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations to delay communication of said data, said series including firstly a transmitter station and secondly a receiver station;
- (3) transferring said at least one instruct signal to said one of an origination broadcast transmitter and an origination cablecast transmitter; and
- (4) transmitting one of a broadcast information transmission and a cablecast information transmission comprising said data and said at least one instruct signal.]

Ed Cont: 99. (Once Amended) The method of claim 97, wherein said portion of information is stored at a storage device based on said step of encoding, said method further comprising the step of including said portion of information in said second information transmission before storing said control signal. [98, wherein one of identification data and said said at least one instruct signal are embedded in a television signal containing said identification data.]

100. (Once Amended) The method of claim 99, wherein said portion of information includes code which is operative to control a processor at each of said plurality of receiver stations. [98, wherein said step of transmitting directs said one of a broadcast information transmission and a cablecast information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at the same time and each of said plurality of receiver stations one of receives and responds to said at least one instruct signal concurrently.]

101. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein one of said first of said plurality of receiver stations and said second of said plurality of receiver stations is programmed to process said control signal based on one of a transmission location and time and wherein said step of communicating comprises inputting said control signal to a storage device in a fashion which enables said storage device to output said control signal in said one of a transmission location and time. [98, wherein said step of transmitting directs said one of a broadcast information transmission and a cablecast information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at different times and each of said plurality of receiver stations responds to said at least one instruct signal at a different time.]



102. (Once Amended) The method of claim 101, wherein said one of said first of said plurality of receiver stations and said second of said plurality of receiver stations is programmed to process said control signal based on one of an interval of time and a predetermined time. [98, further comprising the steps of receiving said data at a receiver in one of a broadcast transmitter station and a cablecast transmitter station, communicating said data from said receiver to a memory location, and storing said data at said memory location for a period of time prior to communicating said data to a transmitter of said one of a broadcast transmitter station and a cablecast transmitter station.]

103. (Once Amended) A method of processing signals in a network, said network including a transmitter station and a receiver station, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting a plurality of signals to one of a switch and a computer at said transmitter station, wherein said plurality of signals include multimedia signals, each of said multimedia signals including at least one of video, audio and data programming;

controlling said one of a switch and a computer to communicate said plurality of signals to said receiver station in accordance with a timing instruction;

decrypting one of said plurality of signals;

passing said plurality of signals selectively to a processor at said receiver station;

and

outputting a multimedia presentation at said receiver station based on said multimedia signals.

[A method of communicating program material to a network of a plurality of receiver stations each of said plurality of receiver stations includes one of a broadcast program receiver and a cablecast program receiver, an output device, a control signal detector, a processor operably connected to said output device, with each of said

plurality of receiver stations adapted to detect and respond to at least one instruct signal, at least one of said plurality of receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method of communicating comprising the steps of:

- E. Cont,
- (1) receiving a program to be transmitted at a transmitter station and delivering said program to a transmitter at said transmitter station;
  - (2) receiving said at least one instruct signal at said transmitter station, said at least one instruct signal operates to identify said program by one of type and content and causes a series of said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations to delay communication of said program, said series including firstly a transmitter station and secondly a receiver station;
  - (3) transferring said at least one instruct signal to said transmitter; and
  - (4) transmitting from said transmitter station an information transmission comprising said program and said at least one instruct signal.]

104. (Once Amended) The method of claim 101, wherein said one of said first of said plurality of receiver stations and said second of said plurality of receiver stations is programmed to process said control signal based on a location in said first information transmission. [103, wherein one of identification data and said at least one instruct signal are embedded in a mass medium program signal containing said program.]

105. (Once Amended) The method of claim 104, further comprising the step of embedding said control signal in said first information transmission. [103, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at the same time and each of said plurality of receiver stations one of receives and responds to said at least one instruct signal concurrently.]

106. (Once Amended) The method of claim 104, further comprising the step of performing said step of encoding before a portion of said first information transmission is communicated to said storage device. [103, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at different times and each of said plurality of receiver stations responds to said at least one instruct signal at a different time.]

107. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of:

including in one of said first information transmission and said control signal a first portion of information which enables one of said plurality of receiver stations to select one of a second portion of information and a device to which to communicate a second portion of information. [103, further comprising the steps of receiving said program at a receiver in said transmitter station, communicating said program from said receiver to a memory location, and storing said program at said memory location for a period of time prior to communicating said program to said transmitter.]

108. (Once Amended) A method of processing signals in a network, said network including a transmitter station and a receiver station, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting a plurality of signals to one of a switch and a computer at said transmitter station, wherein said plurality of signals includes two of video, audio and data programming;

controlling said one of a switch and a computer to communicate said plurality of signals to said receiver station in accordance with a timing instruction;

passing said plurality of signals selectively to a processor at said receiver station;

controlling said processor on the basis of information contained in said plurality of signals; and

outputting a multimedia presentation at said receiver station based on said step of controlling said processor.

21  
ent  
> [A method of controlling a network of a plurality of receiver stations each of said plurality of receiver stations includes one of a broadcast signal receiver and a cablecast signal receiver, at least one processor, a signal detector, said signal detector adapted to receive one of a broadcast signal and a cablecast signal from said broadcast signal receiver and said cablecast signal receiver, and said processor programmed to respond to said one of a broadcast signal and a cablecast signal from said detector, with at least one receiver station of said plurality of receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method of controlling comprising the steps of:

(1) receiving at one of a broadcast transmitter station and a cablecast transmitter station at least one instruct signal which is effective at said plurality of receiver stations to identify said at least one instruct signal by one of type and content and causes a series of said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations to delay communication of said at least one instruct signal, said series including firstly a transmitter station and secondly a receiver station;

(2) transferring said at least one instruct signal from said one of a broadcast transmitter station and a cablecast transmitter station to a transmitter of said one of a broadcast transmitter station and a cablecast transmitter station;

(3) receiving at least one control signal at said one of a broadcast transmitter station and a cablecast transmitter station, said at least one control signal which designates said at least one receiver station of said plurality of receiver stations in which said at least one instruct signal is addressed; and

(4) transferring said at least one control signal from said one of a broadcast transmitter station and a cablecast transmitter station to said transmitter of said one of a

broadcast transmitter station and a cablecast transmitter station, and transmitting said at least one instruct signal and said at least one control signal to said plurality of receiver stations.]

97 Cont. 109. (Once Amended) The method of claim 107, further comprising the steps of:


communicating said second portion of information to said storage device; and  
storing said second portion of information at said storage device. [108, wherein one of said at least one instruct signal and said at least one control signal is embedded in one of a non-visible portion of a television signal and one of a multichannel broadcast signal and a cablecast signal which contains video.]

110. (Once Amended) The method of claim 109, wherein said device to which to communicate said second portion of information comprises a computer and said second portion of information includes a first instruction to be communicated to said computer, said method further comprising the step of including said second portion of information in said control signal. [88, further comprising one of the steps of:

communicating a program unit identification code to said storage device and storing said program unit identification code at a storage location associated with said programming signal; and

communicating to and storing at said storage device information to evidence one of an availability, a use, and usage of one of said programming signal and said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal at one of said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations.]

111. (Once Amended) The method of claim 110, wherein signal content enables said one of said plurality of receiver stations to communicate to a remote station

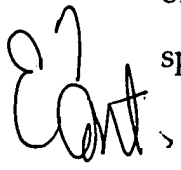
 information evidencing one of (i) receipt of a portion of said first information transmission and (ii) a function performed in response to a portion of said first information transmission, said method further comprising the step of including said signal content in one of said first information transmission and said control signal. [88, further comprising the step of: communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal of said at least one instruct signal which is effective at a user station to generate output to be associated with said one of said programming signal and said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal at a user station of said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations.]

112. (Once Amended) The method of claim 111, wherein said first portion of information controls said one of said plurality of receiver stations and said signal content is communicated to said remote station, said method further comprising one step from the group consisting of:

including an identifier in said signal content;  
including said signal content in said first portion of information; and  
including said first portion of information in said control signal. [88, further comprising one of the steps of: communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal of said at least one instruct signal which is effective to generate output to be associated with one of a product, a service, and an information presentation.]

113. (Once Amended) The method of claim 107, wherein said one of said plurality of receiver stations includes a computer and a plurality of first instructions program said computer to respond to one of a command and a second instruction, said method further comprising the steps of:

communicating said plurality of instructions to a storage device; and

 storing said plurality of instructions at said storage device. [88, further comprising one of the steps of: communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal of said at least one instruct signal which is effective to display one of a combined and a sequential presentation of said mass medium program and a user specific datum.]

114. (Once Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said control signal controls said first of said plurality of receiver stations to transmit said first information transmission to said second of said plurality of receiver stations to control said second of said plurality of receiver stations. [88, further comprising one of the steps of:

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal of said at least one instruct signal which is effective to process a user reaction to said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal.]

115. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one control signal controls said first of said data receiver stations to compare said data to a programming schedule and to transmit said data according to said programming schedule. [88, further comprising one of the steps of: communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal of said at least one instruct signal which is effective to communicate to a remote station a query of information one of to be associated with said programming signal and to enable display of said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal.]

116. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said data according to a programming schedule and logs transmission of said data. [88, further comprising one of the steps of: communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal of said at least one instruct

signal which is effective to control a user station to receive information to supplement said one of said programming signal and said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal.]

117. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said data according to a programming schedule and generates statistics pertaining to said data. [88, further comprising one of the steps of:

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal of said at least one instruct signal which is effective to process a digital television signal.]

118. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said data according to a programming schedule and identifies content of said data. [88, further comprising the step of: communicating to and storing at said storage device one of a code and datum to serve as a basis for enabling an output device one of to display at least a portion of said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal and for enabling said processor to process some executable code.]

119. (Once Amended) A method of processing multimedia signals in a network including a transmission station and a receiver station, said receiver station having a storage device for storing multimedia programming, said storage device including two of an optical disk player, a video recorder/player, and a computer, said method comprising:

inputting to said network a plurality of signals, wherein at least two of said plurality of signals are multimedia signals, each of said multimedia signals including receiver station specific one of video, audio and data programming, said multimedia signals further including an embedded identifier;



inputting said plurality of signals to a switch and a processor at said transmission station;

controlling said switch to communicate said plurality of signals to said receiver station according to timing instructions;

identifying programming inputted to said switch;

communicating an instruct-to-coordinate signal to said receiver station;

delaying at least one of processing and communication of said multimedia signals in response to one of said instruct-to-coordinate signal and programming stored at said processor; and

presenting multimedia programming to a receiver at said receiver station at one of a specific time and a specific place in response to said instruct-to-coordinate signal, said multimedia programming contained in said multimedia signals.

[A method of processing a plurality of signals comprising the steps of:

inputting said plurality of signals to a transmission station, each signal of said plurality of signals comprising an identification datum and at least one of video programming, audio programming and data programming ;

inputting said each signal at said transmission station to a switch having a plurality of output channels;

processing said each signal to determine (i) which ones of said at least one of said video programming, said audio programming and said data programming comprise said each signal and (ii) when to transmit said each signal;

selecting at least one of said plurality of signals to delay communication thereof;  
and

transmitting said plurality of signals to a processor in a field distribution system, said processor having a plurality of output ports;

communicating said plurality of signals to at least one remote geographic location;

determining that the transmission of a specific signal of said plurality of signals should be delayed;

selecting a storage location; and

communicating said specific signal to said selected storage location.]

120. (Once Amended) A method of processing signals to cause a plurality of receiver stations to function in different fashions, each of said plurality of receiver stations having a processor, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving an information transmission and communicating said information transmission to a storage device;

receiving a signal which is operative to cause each of said plurality of receiver stations to identify and process a portion of said information transmission, wherein said plurality of receiver stations one of (i) process a portion of said information transmission in different fashions and (ii) process different portion of said information transmission;

selecting one of the group consisting of:

(1) a time at which to communicate said signal; and

(2) a storage location to which to communicate said signal;

communicating said signal one of (i) at a selected time and (ii) to a selected storage location based on said step of selecting; and

storing said information transmission and said signal at said storage device, wherein said method processes signals to causes said plurality of receiver stations to function in different fashions.

[A method of processing signals to control a plurality of user stations, each user station of said plurality of user stations having a processor, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving, at an origination station, a programming signal which contains mass medium programming that includes audio;

communicating said programming signal to a storage device;

receiving, at said origination station, at least one instruct signal which is effective to instruct at least two of said plurality of user stations to delay communication of at least a portion of said programming signal at said at least two of said plurality of user stations, the duration of said delay being one of (i) the same and (ii) different for two of said at least two of said plurality of user stations;

selecting at least one of the group consisting of:

(1) a time at which to communicate a first instruct signal of said at least one instruct signal; and

(2) a memory location to which to communicate a first instruct signal of said at least one instruct signal;

communicating said first instruct signal according to said selected at least one of said time and said memory location; and

storing said programming signal and said first instruct signal at said storage device.]

121. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said data according to a programming schedule and outputs an identifier of said data to a remote data collection station. [120, further comprising one of the steps of:

embedding said first instruct signal in said programming signal;

embedding a code in said programming signal that enables a processor to control a presentation of said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal in accordance with said first instruct signal;

communicating a program unit identification code to said storage device and storing said program unit identification code at a storage location associated with said programming signal;

*Cont.* communicating to and storing at said storage device some information to evidence one of an availability, a use, and a usage of one of said programming signal and said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal at one of said plurality of user stations;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective at a user station to generate some output to be associated with one of said programming signal and said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to generate some output to be associated with a product, service, or information presentation;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to display a combined or sequential presentation of a mass medium program and a user specific datum;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to process a user reaction to said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to communicate to a remote station a query in respect of information to be associated with said programming signal or to enable display of said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to control a user station to receive information to supplement said

programming signal or said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to process a digital television signal which is separately defined from standard analog television; and

communicating to and storing at said storage device a code or datum to serve as a basis for enabling an output device to display at least some of said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal or for enabling a processor to process some executable code.]

122. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one control signal identifies content of said data and controls a switch to communicate said content. [120, wherein said selected memory location is within said programming signal at said storage device, said method further comprising the step of storing some information at said storage device that evidences at least one of:

- (1) a title of a television program;
- (2) a proper use of programming;
- (3) a transmission station;
- (4) a receiver station;
- (5) a network;
- (6) a broadcast station;
- (7) a channel on a cable system;
- (8) a time of transmission;
- (9) a identification of an instruct signal of said at least one instruct signal;
- (10) one of a source and supplier of data;
- (11) one of a publication, article, publisher, distributor, and an advertisement;

and

(12) an indication of copyright.]

123. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one control signal identifies one of said data and delays transmission of said one of said data. [120, said method further comprising the steps of:

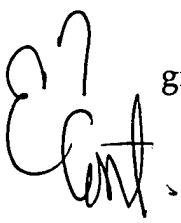
selecting one from the group consisting of:

- (1) a datum that identifies computer software in said programming signal;
- (2) a datum that instructs receiver end equipment of one of what specific programming to select to one of play and record other than that immediately at hand, how to load said specific programming on one of player equipment and recorder equipment, when and how to one of play said specific programming and record said specific programming other than immediately, how to modify said specific programming, what one of equipment, channel and channels to transmit said specific programming on, when to transmit said specific programming, and how and where to one of file said specific programming, or refile said specific programming, and dispose of said specific programming ;
- (3) a datum that designates an addressed apparatus;
- (4) a datum that specifies one of where, when, and how to locate said programming signal;
- (5) a datum that informs said processor of a fashion for identifying and processing said programming signal;
- (6) a datum that is part of a decryption code;
- (7) a comparison datum that designates a communication schedule; and embedding said selected one in said programming signal.]

124. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one control signal selects a storage location and stores one of said data at said selected

storage location. [120, wherein said storage device comprises a file storage medium, said programming signal and said first instruct signal are stored in a file in said file storage medium, said method further comprising the steps of:

selecting a second instruct signal, said second instruct signal being one from the group consisting of:

- 
- (1) a switch control signal;
  - (2) a timing control signal;
  - (3) a locating control signal;
  - (4) an instruct-to-contact signal that designates a remote receiver station;
  - (5) an instruct-to-transfer signal that designates one of a unit of broadcast programming and cablecast programming;
  - (6) an instruct-to-delay signal that designates said one of a unit of broadcast programming and cablecast programming;
  - (7) one of an instruct-to-decrypt and instruct-to-interrupt signal that designates a unit of programming and a way to one of decrypt and interrupt;
  - (8) one of an instruct-to-enable and an instruct-to-disable signal that designates an apparatus;
  - (9) an instruct-to-record signal that designates one of broadcast programming and cablecast programming;
  - (10) an instruction signal that controls a multimedia presentation;
  - (11) an instruction signal that governs one of a broadcast receiver station environment and a cablecast receiver station environment;
  - (12) an instruct-to-power-on signal that designates a receiver;
  - (13) an instruct-to-tune signal that designates one of a receiver a frequency;
  - (14) an instruct-to-coordinate signal that designates two apparatus;

(15) an instruct-to-compare signal that designates one of a news transmission and a computer input;

(16) an identifier signal that causes a computer to instruct a plurality of tuners each to tune to one of a broadcast transmission and a cablecast transmission;

E? Cont, (17) an instruct-to-coordinate signal that designates two units of multimedia information and one of: (1) an output time and (2) an output place;

(18) an instruct-to-generate signal that designates an output datum;

(19) an instruct-to-transmit signal that designates a computer output;

(20) an instruct-to-overlay signal that designates a video image;

(21) an instruct-that-if signal that designates a function to perform if a predetermined condition exists;

(22) an instruct-to-enable-and-deliver signal that designates information that supplements a video image;

(23) an instruct-to-transmit signal that designates a computer peripheral storage device;

(24) a code signal that designates a datum to one of remove and embed;  
and

(25) a signal addressed to a receiver station apparatus; and  
storing said selected second instruct signal in said file on said file storage medium.]

125. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein at least one control signal further delays transmission of one of said data. [A method of generating and encoding signals to control a plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations comprising the steps of:

receiving and storing a program that contains at least one of video information and audio information;



Ed Cont, receiving an instruction, said instruction having an effect at a series of said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations, said series including firstly a transmitter station and, secondly, a receiver station, said effect being to delay communication of at least a portion of said program at at least each of said transmitter station and said receiver station;

encoding said instruction, said step of encoding translating said instruction to a control signal, said control signal directs a processor at each one of said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations to perform said effect indicated by said instruction, said control signal interacting with predetermined user data, said predetermined user data being potentially different at each of said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations; and

storing said control signal in conjunction with said program.]

126. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one control signal further controls said second of said data receiver stations to receive one of said data. [125, wherein supplemental program material is stored said processor, said control signal, based on said step of encoding directs, said processor to generate a video overlay that is coordinated with said video information in said program, said method further comprising one step of the group consisting of:

storing said supplemental program material in conjunction with said program and said control signal; and

storing a second control signal in conjunction with said program and said control signal based on said step of encoding, said second control signal effecting at least one of said plurality of said receiver stations and transmitter stations to do one of (i) query a remote station and (ii) receive said supplemental program material in one of a broadcast transmission and a cablecast transmission.]

97  
Cont,

127. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said data according to a transmission schedule and controls said second of said data receiver stations to store said data. [125, wherein said control signal based on said step of encoding also directs said processor to generate a video overlay that is coordinated with said video information in said program, said method further comprising one step of the group consisting of:

transmitting a combined video signal from said program and said video overlay generated by said processor over one of a broadcast network and a cablecast network to a plurality of receiver stations; and

transmitting said combined video signal from said program and said video overlay generated by said processor to a co-located video display.]

128. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one control signal causes said network to transmit said data at a specific time and to generate output information by processing said data. [125, further comprising the steps of:

receiving a second instruction, said second instruction having an effect at one of said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations consisting of one of:

- (1) to generate output to be associated with said program;
- (2) to generate output to be associated with one of a product, service, and information presentation;
- (3) to display one of a combined and a sequential presentation of one of a mass medium program and a user specific datum;
- (4) to process a user reaction to said program;
- (5) to communicate to a remote station one of a query of information one of to be associated with said program and to enable display of said program;

(6) to control said at least one of said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations user station to receive information to supplement said program;

(7) to process a digital television signal ; and

*Edt.* (8) to serve as a basis for enabling an output device to display one of at least a portion of said program and for enabling said processor to process an executable code.

encoding said second instruction, said second step of encoding includes translating said second instruction to a second control signal, said second control signal for directing said processor to perform said effect indicated by said second instruction ; and

storing said second control signal from said second step of encoding in conjunction with said program.]

129. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one control signal further generates information to complete content of said information transmission and outputs said generated information and said content. [125, further comprising one step of the group consisting of:

embedding said control signal in a non-visible portion of a television signal;

embedding a code in said program that enables one of a computer and a controller to control a presentation of said program in accordance with said control signal;

communicating a program unit identification code and storing said program unit identification code at a storage location associated with said program; and

communicating to and storing at said storage location associated with said program information to evidence one of an availability, a use, and a usage of said program at said plurality of receiver stations and transmitter stations.]

130. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein at least one control signal controls said network to transmits said data according to a programming schedule and processes a response to information contained in said data. [A method of communicating data and update material to a plurality of stations, said plurality of stations including at least one intermediate data transmitter station and a plurality of data receiver stations, said at least one intermediate data transmitter station being in series with said plurality of data receiver stations, each data receiver station of said plurality of data receiver stations including one of a broadcast data receiver and a cablecast data receiver, a data storage device, a control signal detector, and a computer capable of processing said data, said each data receiver station adapted to detect and respond to at least one instruct signal and to store said data for subsequent processing, and with at least one of said plurality of data receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method of communicating comprising the steps of:

- (1) receiving, at an origination station, said data;
- (2) delivering said data to an origination transmitter;
- (3) receiving, at said origination station, said at least one instruct signal, said at least one instruct signal having effect at each of (i) said at least one intermediate data transmitter station and (ii) said plurality of data receiver stations to delay communication of at least a portion of said data at each of (i) said at least one intermediate data transmitter station and (ii) at least one of said plurality of data receiver stations ;
- (4) transferring said at least one instruct signal to said origination transmitter; and
- (5) transmitting one of a broadcast information transmission and a cablecast information transmission, said information transmission comprising said data and said at least one instruct signal.]

131. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said data according to a programming schedule and controls the output of said data at said second of said data receiver stations. [130, wherein one of identification data and said at least one instruct signal is embedded in a television signal that contains said data.]

132. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one control signal decrypts a portion of said data. [130, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of data receiver stations at the same time and each of said plurality of data receiver stations does one of receives and responds to said at least one instruct signal concurrently.]

133. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one control signal causes said network to transmit said data according to a schedule and outputs said data as a portion of a multimedia presentation by processing said data. [130, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of data receiver stations at different times and each of said plurality of data receiver stations responds to said at least one instruct signals at a different time.]

134. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said first of said data receiver stations and said second of said data receiver stations each identify content of said data by processing said at least one control signal, said method further comprising the step of including an identifier in said at least one control signal. [130, further comprising the steps of:

receiving said data at a receiver in one of a broadcast transmitter station and a cablecast transmitter station,

communicating said data from said receiver to a memory location, and

storing said data at said memory location for a period of time prior to communicating said data to said transmitter of said at least one of said plurality of data receiver stations.]

135. (Once Amended) The method of claim 134, wherein said identifier identifies one of television and radio programming, said method further comprising the step of including said one of television and radio programming in said information transmission. [A method of communicating program material to a plurality of stations, said plurality of stations including at least one intermediate transmitter station and a plurality of receiver stations, said at least one intermediate transmitter station being in series with said plurality of receiver stations, each receiver station of said plurality of receiver stations including one of a broadcast program receiver and a cablecast program receiver, an output device, a control signal detector, and a processor operably connected to said output device, said each receiver station adapted to detect and respond to at least one instruct signal, with at least one of said plurality of receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method of communicating comprising the steps of:

- (1) receiving, at a transmitter station, a program to be transmitted, said program including audio;
- (2) delivering said program to a transmitter;
- (3) receiving, at said transmitter station, said at least one instruct signal, said at least one instruct signal being effective at each of (i) said at least one intermediate transmitter station and (ii) said plurality of receiver stations to delay communication of at least a portion of said program at each of (i) said at least one intermediate transmitter station and (ii) at least one receiver station of said plurality of receiver stations;
- (4) transferring said at least one instruct signal to said transmitter; and

(5) transmitting from said transmitter station an information transmission comprising said program and said at least one instruct signal.]

136. (Once Amended) The method of claim 134, wherein said identifier identifies one of video and audio, said method further comprising the step of including said one of video and audio in said information transmission. [135, wherein one of identification data and said at least one instruct signal is embedded in a mass medium program signal containing said program.]

137. (Once Amended) The method of claim 134, wherein said identifier identifies one of a datum and an instruction, said method further comprising the step of including said one of a datum and an instruction in said data. [135, wherein said step of transmitting directs said transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at the same time and each of said plurality of receiver stations does one of receives and responds to said at least one instruct signal concurrently.]

138. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said first of said data receiver stations and said second of said data receiver stations each monitor one of availability, use, and usage of content of said data, said method further comprising the step of including in said information transmission a portion of information to be processed that identifies said content of said data. [135, wherein said step of transmitting directs said transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at different times and each of said plurality of receiver stations responds to said at least one instruct signal at a different time.]

139. (Once Amended) The method of claim 138, wherein said portion of information is stored at said data storage device based on said step of transmitted. [135, further comprising the steps of:

receiving said program at a receiver in said transmitter station,  
communicating said program from said receiver to a memory location, and  
storing said program at said memory location for a period of time prior to  
communicating said program to a transmitter of said at least one of said plurality of  
receiver stations.]

140. (Once Amended) The method of claim 139, wherein said portion of information includes code which is operative to control said computer at each of said data receiver stations, said method further comprising the step of including said code in said at least one control signal. [A method of controlling a network of a plurality of stations, said plurality of stations including at least one intermediate transmitter station and a plurality of receiver stations, said at least one intermediate transmitter station being in series with said plurality of receiver stations, each receiver station of said plurality of receiver stations including one of a broadcast signal receiver and a cablecast signal receiver, at least one processor, and a signal detector, said signal detector adapted to receive signals from one of a broadcast signal and a cablecast signal, said processor programmed to respond to signals from said detector, with at least one of said plurality of receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method of controlling comprising the steps of:

(1) receiving, at one of a broadcast transmitter station and a cablecast transmitter station, at least one instruct signal, said at least one instruct signal being effective at each of (i) said at least one intermediate transmitter station and (ii) said plurality of receiver stations to delay communication of a least a portion of said instruct



signal at each of (i) said at least one intermediate transmitter station and (ii) at least one receiver station of said plurality of receiver stations;

(2) transferring said at least one instruct signal from said transmitter station to a second transmitter;

(3) receiving at least one control signal at said transmitter station, said at least one control signal designating at least one station of said plurality of stations to which said at least one instruct signal is addressed;

(4) transferring said at least one control signal from said transmitter station to said second transmitter; and

(5) doing one of broadcasting and cablecasting said at least one instruct signal and said at least one control signal to said plurality of stations.]

141. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein one of said first of said data receiver stations and said second of said data receiver stations is programmed to process said at least one control signal based on one of a transmission location and time, said method further comprising the step of outputting said at least one control signal in said one of a transmission location and time. [140, wherein one of said at least one instruct signal and said at least one control signal is embedded in a non-visible portion of one of a television signal that contains audio and a multichannel broadcast or cablecast that contains audio.]

142. (Once Amended) The method of claim 141, wherein said one of said first of said data receiver stations and said second of said data receiver stations is programmed to process said at least one control signal based on one of an interval of time and a predetermined time. [130, wherein said each data receiver station includes a selective transmission device.]

143. (Once Amended) The method of claim 141, wherein said one of said first of said data receiver stations and said second of said data receiver stations is programmed to process said at least one control signal based on a location in said information transmission. [130, wherein said data includes audio.]

144. (Once Amended) The method of claim 143, further comprising the step of embedding said at least one control signal in said information transmission. [130, wherein said data includes television programming that includes audio and full motion video.]

145. (Once Amended) The method of claim 143, wherein said at least one control signal is transmitted from said origination station before a portion of said information transmission is transmitted. [135, wherein said each receiver station includes a selective transmission device.]

146. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of:  
including in one of said data and said at least one control signal a first portion of information which enables one of said data receiver stations to select one of a second portion of information and a device to which to communicate a second portion of information. [135, wherein said program includes television programming that includes audio and full motion video.]

147. The method of claim 146, further comprising the steps of:  
communicating said second portion of information to a storage device; and  
storing said second portion of information. [120, wherein said duration of said delay is of a predetermined period of time.]

148. (Once Amended) The method of claim 147, wherein said device to which to communicate said second portion of information comprises a computer and said second portion of information includes a first instruction to be communicated to said computer, said method further comprising the step of including said second portion of information in said at least one control signal. [A method of processing a plurality of signals in a system that comprises at least one transmission station and at least one subscriber station, remote from said at least one transmission station, said method comprising the steps of:

programming said at least one subscriber station to store user data and select said plurality of signals on the basis of said user data;

inputting said plurality of signals to said at least one transmission station;

inputting a transmission schedule associated with said plurality of signals, said transmission schedule identifying a specific schedule for each of said plurality of signals, said specific schedule comprising for each scheduled signal at least two of:

- (1) a time at which to transmit said scheduled signal;
- (2) a channel on which to transmit said scheduled signal; and
- (3) a code designating said scheduled signal;

transmitting at least one of said plurality of signals in response to said transmission schedule;

causing said at least one subscriber station to store at least one specific signal of said at least one of said plurality of signals based on said selection step based on said user data.]

149. (Once Amended) The method of claim 148, wherein signal content enables said one of said data receiver stations to communicate to a remote station information evidencing one of (i) receipt of a portion of said information transmission

and (ii) a function performed in response to a portion of said information transmission, said method further comprising the step of including said signal content in one of said data and said at least one control signal. [A method of processing signals to control

operations in a system comprising at least one transmitter station and at least one receiver station, each station having a processor, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a programming signal which contains mass medium programming containing audio and communicating said programming signal to a storage device;

receiving at least one instruct signal which is effective to instruct said at least one transmitter station to transmit said programming signal according to a schedule and at said at least one receiver station to store said programming signal;

selecting one of the group consisting of:

(1) a time at which to communicate a first of said at least one instruct signal; and

(2) a memory location to which to communicate a first of said at least one instruct signal;

communicating said first of said at least one instruct signal at said selected time or to said selected memory location; and

storing said programming signal and said first of said at least one instruct signal at said storage device.]

150. (Once Amended) The method of claim 149, wherein said first portion of information controls said one of said data receiver stations and said signal content is communicated to said remote station, said method further comprising one step from the group consisting of:

including an identifier in said signal content;

including said signal content in said first portion of information; and

including said first portion of information in said at least one control signal.

[further comprising one of the steps of:

embedding said first instruct signal in said programming signal;

embedding a code in said programming signal that enables a processor at one of said stations in said system to control a presentation of said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal in accordance with said first instruct signal;

communicating a program unit identification code to said storage device and storing said program unit identification code at a storage location in said storage device associated with said programming signal;

communicating to and storing at said storage device some information to evidence an availability, use, or usage of said programming signal or said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal at a user station;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective at a user station to generate some output to be associated with said programming signal or said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to generate some output to be associated with a product, service, or information presentation;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to display a combined or sequential presentation of a mass medium program and user specific data;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to process a user reaction to said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to communicate to a remote station a query regarding information to be associated with said programming signal or to enable display of said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to control a receiver station to receive information to supplement said programming signal or said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to process a digital television signal; and


communicating to and storing at said storage device a code to serve as a basis for enabling an output device to display at least some of said mass medium programming contained in said programming signal or for enabling a processor at one of said stations in said system to process some executable code.]

151. (Once Amended) The method of claim 146, wherein said one of said data receiver stations includes a computer and a plurality of first instructions program said computer to respond to one of a command and a second instruction, said method further comprising one of the group consisting of:

transmitting said plurality of first instructions; and

transmitting one of a command and a second instruction. [149, wherein said selected memory location is within said storage device, said method further comprising the step of storing some information at said storage device that evidences one or more of:

- (1) a title of a television program;
- (2) a proper use of programming;
- (3) a transmission station;

- 
- (4) a receiver station;
  - (5) a network;
  - (6) a broadcast station;
  - (7) a channel on a cable system;
  - (8) a time of transmission;
  - (9) an identification of an instruct signal;
  - (10) a source or supplier of data;
  - (11) a distributor an advertisement; and
  - (12) an indication of copyright.]

152. (Once Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one control signal controls said first of said data receiver stations to transmit said data to said second of said data receiver stations to control said second of said data receiver stations. [149, said method further comprising the steps of:

selecting one from the group consisting of:

- (1) a datum that identifies a unit of computer software in said programming signal;
- (2) a datum that specifies some of a way to instruct receiver end equipment what specific programming to select to play or record other than that immediately at hand, how to load it on player or recorder equipment, when and how to play it or record it other than immediately, how to modify it, what equipment or channel or channels to transmit it on, when to transmit it, and how and where to file it or refile it or dispose of it;
- (3) a datum that designates an addressed apparatus;
- (4) a datum that specifies where, when, or how to locate a signal;
- (5) a datum that informs a processor of at one of said stations in said system of a fashion for identifying and processing a signal;

- (6) a datum that is part of a decryption code;
- (7) a comparison datum that designates a communication schedule;

and

embedding said selected one in said programming signal.]

153. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one control signal controls said first of said programming receiver stations to compare said mass medium programming to a programming schedule and to transmit said mass medium programming according to said programming schedule. [149, wherein said storage device comprises a file storage medium and said programming signal and said first instruct signal are stored in a file on said file storage medium, said method further comprising the steps of:

selecting a second instruct signal, said second instruct signal being one from the group consisting of:

- (1) a switch control signal;
- (2) a timing control signal;
- (3) a locating control signal;
- (4) an instruct-to-contact signal that designates a remote receiver station;
- (5) an instruct-to-transfer signal that designates a unit of broadcast or cablecast programming;
- (6) an instruct-to-delay signal that designates a unit of broadcast or cablecast programming;
- (7) an instruct-to-decrypt or instruct-to-interrupt signal that designates a unit of programming and a way to decrypt or interrupt;
- (8) an instruct-to-enable or instruct-to-disable signal that designates an apparatus;



(9) an instruct-to-record signal that designates a broadcast or cablecast program;

(10) an instruction signal that controls a media presentation;

(11) an instruction signal that governs a broadcast or cablecast receiver station environment;

(12) an instruct-to-power-on signal that designates a receiver;

(13) an instruct-to-tune signal that designates a receiver or a frequency;

(14) an instruct-to-coordinate signal that designates two apparatus;

(15) an instruct-to-compare signal that designates a news transmission or a computer input;

(16) an identifier signal that causes a computer to instruct a plurality of tuners each to tune to a broadcast or cablecast transmission;

(17) an instruct-to-coordinate signal that designates two units of multimedia information and one of: (1) an output time and (2) an output place;

(18) an instruct-to-generate signal that designates an output datum;

(19) an instruct-to-transmit signal that designates a computer output;

(20) an instruct-to-overlay signal that designates a video image;

(21) an instruct signal that designates a function to perform if a predetermined condition exists;

(22) an instruct-to-enable-and-deliver signal that designates information that supplements a video image;

(23) an instruct-to-transmit signal that designates a computer peripheral storage device;

(24) a code signal that designates a datum to remove or embed; and

(25) a signal addressed to a receiver station apparatus; and

storing said selected second instruct signal in said file on said file storage medium.]

154. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said mass medium programming according to a programming schedule and logs transmission of said mass medium programming. [A method of encoding signals to control a plurality of potential user stations, each user station having a processor and being one of a transmitter station and a receiver station, comprising the steps of:

receiving and storing a program that contains video and audio information;

receiving an instruction, said instruction having effect at to control a transmitter

station to transmit said program according to a schedule and a receiver station to store said program;

encoding said instruction, said step of encoding translating said instruction to a control signal, said control signal for directing a processor at one or more of said plurality of user stations to perform said effect indicated by said instruction, said control signal interacting with predetermined data at each of said user stations, said predetermined data being different at each of said plurality of user stations; and

storing said control signal in conjunction with said program.]

155. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said mass medium programming according to a programming schedule and generates statistics pertaining to said mass medium programming. [154, wherein supplemental program material is stored at the same location as said processor and said control signal from said step of encoding also directs said processor to generate a video overlay that is coordinated with said video information in said program, said method further comprising one step of the group consisting of:

storing said supplemental program material in conjunction with said program and said control signal; and

storing a second control signal in conjunction with said program and said control signal from said step of encoding, said second control signal having effect at a user station to query a remote station or receive said supplemental program material in a broadcast or cablecast transmission.]

87  
156. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said mass medium programming according to a programming schedule and identifies content of said mass medium programming. [154, wherein said control signal from said step of encoding also directs said processor to generate a video overlay that is coordinated with said video information in said program, said method further comprising one step of the group consisting of:

transmitting a combined video signal from said program and said video overlay generated by said processor over a broadcast or cablecast network to a plurality of receiver stations; and

transmitting a combined video signal from said program and said video overlay generated by said processor to a co-located video display.]

157. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said mass medium programming according to a programming schedule and outputs an identifier of said mass medium programming to a remote data collection station. [154, further comprising the steps of:

receiving a second instruction, said second instruction being one of the group consisting of:

(1) an instruction which is effective at a user station to generate some output to be associated with said program;

(2) an instruction which is effective at a user station to generate some output to be associated with a product, service, or information presentation;

(3) an instruction which is effective at a user station to display a combined or sequential presentation of a mass medium program and user specific data;

(4) an instruction which is effective at a user station to process a user reaction to said program;

(5) an instruction which is effective at a user station to communicate to a remote station a query in respect of information to be associated with said program or to enable display of said program;

(6) an instruction which is effective at a user station to control a user station to receive information to supplement said program; and

(7) an instruction which is effective at a user station to serve as a basis for enabling an output device to display at least some of said program or for enabling a processor to process some executable code.

encoding said second instruction, said second step of encoding translating said second instruction to a second control signal, said second control signal for directing said processor to perform in accordance with said second instruction; and  
storing said second control signal in conjunction with said program.]

158. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one control signal identifies content of said mass medium programming and controls a switch to communicate said content. [154, further having one step from the group consisting of:

embedding said control signal in the non-visible portion of a television signal;  
embedding a code in said program that enables a computer or controller to control a presentation of said program in accordance with said control signal;

communicating a program unit identification code and storing said program unit identification code at a storage location associated with said program; and

communicating to and storing at a storage location associated with said program some information to evidence an availability, use, or usage of said program at a user station.]

87  
GJ

159. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one control signal identifies content of said mass medium programming and delays transmission of said content. [A method of communicating data and update material to a network of data receiver stations each of which includes a broadcast or cablecast data receiver, a data storage device, a control signal detector, a computer capable of processing data, and with receiver station adapted to detect and respond to instruct signals and to store data for subsequent processing, and with at least one of said plurality of data receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method of communicating comprising the steps of:

receiving data to be transmitted at an origination station and delivering said data to an origination transmitter;

receiving at least one of said instruct signals which in said network are effective to control at least one of said receiver stations to store said data and to transmit said data according to a schedule;

transferring said at least one of said instruct signals to said origination transmitter; and

transmitting a broadcast or cablecast information transmission comprising said data and said at least one of said instruct signals.]

160. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one control signal selects a storage location and stores a portion of said mass medium programming at said selected storage location. [159, wherein some information

identifying said data or said one or more instruct signals are embedded in a television signal containing said data.]

161. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one control signal further delays transmission of said mass medium programming. [159, wherein said step of transmitting directs said broadcast or cablecast transmission to said plurality of data receiver stations at the same time and each of said plurality receives or responds to said one or more instruct signals concurrently.]

162. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one control signal further controls said second of said programming receiver stations to receive said mass medium programming. [159, wherein said step of transmitting directs said broadcast or cablecast transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at different times and each of said plurality responds to said one or more of said instruct signals at a different time.]

163. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said mass medium programming according to a transmission schedule and controls said second of said programming receiver stations to store said mass medium programming. [159, further comprising the step of receiving said data at a receiver, communicating said data from said receiver to a memory location, and storing said data at said memory location for a period of time prior to communicating said data to said origination transmitter.]

164. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one control signal controls said network to transmit said mass medium programming at a specific time and to generate and output information. [A method of communicating

E7  
CMT  
program material to a network including a plurality of receiver stations each of which includes a broadcast or cablecast program receiver, an output device, a control signal detector, a processor operably connected to said output device, with each of said plurality of receiver stations adapted to detect and respond to instruct signals, and with at least one of said plurality of receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method of communicating comprising the steps of:

receiving a program to be transmitted at an origination station and delivering said program to an origination transmitter;

receiving at least one of said instruct signals which in said network is effective to control said plurality of receiver stations to store said program and to transmit said program according to a schedule;

transferring said at least one of said instruct signals to said origination transmitter; and

transmitting from said origination station an information transmission comprising said program and said at least one of said instruct signals.]

165. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one control signal controls said network to generate information to complete said mass medium programming and to output said generated information with said mass medium programming. [164, wherein some identification information identifying said program or said one or more instruct signals are embedded in a mass medium program signal containing said program.]

166. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein at least one control signal controls said network to transmits said mass medium programming according to a programming schedule and processes a response at said second of said programming receiver stations to information contained in said information transmission. [164,

wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at the same time and each of said plurality of receiver stations receives or responds to said one or more instruct signals concurrently.]

167. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said mass medium programming according to a programming schedule and controls the output of said mass medium programming at said second of said programming receiver stations. [164, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at different times and each of said plurality of receiver stations responds to said one or more instruct signals at a different time.]

168. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one control signal decrypts a portion of said mass medium programming. [164, further comprising the steps of receiving said program at a receiver, communicating said program from said receiver to a memory location, and storing said program at said memory location for a period of time prior to communicating said program to said origination transmitter.]

169. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said mass medium programming according to a schedule and outputs said mass medium programming as a portion of a multimedia presentation. [A method of controlling a network of a plurality of receiver stations each of which includes a broadcast or cablecast signal receiver, at least one processor, a signal detector, said signal detector adapted to detect signals in a broadcast or cablecast signal, and said processor programmed to respond to signals from said detector, with at



least one of said plurality of receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method of controlling comprising the steps of:

receiving at an origination station an instruct signal which is effective at said plurality of receiver stations to control said plurality of receiver stations to store said instruct signal and said transmitter to transmit said instruct signal according to a schedule;

transferring said instruct signal from said origination station to an origination transmitter;

receiving at least one control signal at said origination station, said at least one control signal designating at least one receiver station of said plurality of receiver stations to which said instruct signal is addressed; and

transferring said at least one control signal from said origination station to said origination transmitter, said origination station broadcasting or cablecasting said instruct signal and said at least one control signal.]

170. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said first of said programming receiver stations and said second of said programming receiver stations each identify content of said mass medium programming by processing said at least one control signal, said method further comprising the step of including an identifier in said at least one control signal. [169, wherein said instruct signal or said at least one control signal is embedded in the non-invisible portion of a television or a multichannel broadcast or cablecast signal which contains video.]


171. (Once Amended) The method of claim 170, wherein said identifier identifies one of television and radio programming, said method further comprising the step of including said one of television and radio programming in said mass medium programming. [A method of processing signals in a system that comprises a

transmission station and at least one remote subscriber station, said system having a first computer, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting a control signal at said transmission station;

inputting a schedule associated with said control signal, said schedule

designating at least two of:

- 
- (1) a transmission time;
  - (2) a transmission channel; and
  - (3) an identifier;

communicating said control signal in accordance with said schedule at a time when information content does not exist;

inputting said control signal to at least said first computer based on said step of communicating;

generating said information content in response to said control signal, said information content including at least one of video, audio, and a graphic; and

causing a signal generator to add one of said control signal and said generated information content to an information transmission containing a television signal at either said television station or said at least one remote subscriber station.]

172. (Once Amended) The method of claim 170, wherein said identifier identifies one of video and audio, said method further comprising the step of including said one of video and audio in said mass medium programming. [A method of processing signals to control a plurality of user stations, each user station having at least one processor, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a programming signal which contains mass medium programming and communicating said programming signal to a storage device;

receiving at least one instruct signal which is effective to instruct said plurality of user stations to: (a) generate information content to complete or supplement said

programming signal, (b) incorporate said generated information content into said programming signal, and (c) transmit to at least one of said plurality of user stations said programming signal and said information content, said information content comprising at least one of video, audio, and a graphic;

selecting one of:

(1) a time to communicate a first instruct signal, said first instruct signal being one of said at least one instruct signal; and

(2) a storage location to communicate said first instruct signal to;  
communicating said first instruct signal based on one of said selected time and said selected storage location; and

storing said programming signal and said first instruct signal at said storage device.]

173. (Once Amended) The method of claim 170, wherein said identifier identifies one of a datum and an instruction, said method further comprising the step of including said one of a datum and an instruction in said mass medium programming.

[172, further comprising one of the steps of:

embedding said first instruct signal in said programming signal;

embedding a code in said programming signal that enables a processor to control the presentation of said mass medium programming in accordance with said first instruct signal;

communicating a program identification code to said storage device and storing said program identification code at a storage location associated with said programming signal;

communicating to and storing at said storage device information regarding one of the availability, use, and usage of one of said programming signal and said mass medium programming at a user station;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective at a user station to generate output to be associated with one of said programming signal and said mass medium programming ;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to generate output to be associated with one of a product and service, said one of a product and service being offered in said mass medium programming;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to display one of a combined presentation and a sequential presentation of a mass medium program and a user specific datum;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to process a user reaction to said mass medium programming ;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to perform one of: (a) communicate to a remote station a query in respect of information to be associated with said programming signal , and (b) enable the display of said mass medium programming;

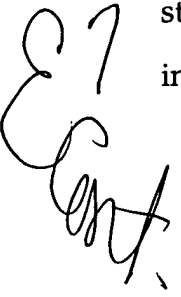
communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to control a user station to receive information to supplement one of said programming signal and said mass medium programming;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to process a digital television signal; and

communicating to and storing at said storage device code that: (a) serves as a basis for enabling an output device to display said mass medium programming, and (b) enables a processor to process said code.]

174. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said first of said programming receiver stations and said second of said programming receiver stations each monitor one of availability, use, and usage of content of said mass medium

programming, said method further comprising the step of including in said information transmission a portion of information to be processed that identifies said content of said mass medium programming. [172, wherein said first instruct signal is stored at a memory location that contains data embedded in said programming signal at said storage device, said method further comprising the step of storing in said data information that evidences at least one of:


- 
- (1) a title of a television program;
  - (2) an intended use of programming;
  - (3) a transmission station;
  - (4) a receiver station;
  - (5) a network;
  - (6) a broadcast station;
  - (7) a channel on a cable system;
  - (8) a time of transmission;
  - (9) an identification of an instruct signal;
  - (10) a source or supplier of data;
  - (11) a distributor or advertisement; and
  - (12) an indication of copyright.]

175. (Once Amended) The method of claim 174, wherein said portion of information is stored at a storage device based on said step of transmitting. [172, said method further comprising the steps of:

selecting a datum that performs one of:

- (1) identifying computer software in said programming signal;
- (2) specifying some of a way to instruct receiver end equipment what specific programming to select to play or record other than that immediately at hand, how to load it on player or recorder equipment, when and how to play it or record it

other than immediately, how to modify it, what equipment or channel or channels to transmit it on, when to transmit it, and how and where to file it or refile it or dispose of it;

- 
- (3) designating an addressed apparatus;
  - (4) specifying information related to locating a signal;
  - (5) informing a processor of a fashion for identifying and processing a signal;
  - (6) enabling decryption;
  - (7) designating a communication schedule; and

embedding said selected datum in said programming signal.]

176. (Once Amended) The method of claim 175, wherein said portion of information includes code which is operative to control said processor at each of said programming receiver stations, said method further comprising the step of including said code in said at least one control signal. [172, wherein said storage device comprises a file storage medium and said programming signal and said first instruct signal are stored in a file on said file storage medium, said method further comprising the steps of:

selecting a second instruct signal, said second instruct signal being one of:

- (1) a switch control signal;
- (2) a timing control signal;
- (3) a locating control signal;
- (4) an instruct-to-contact signal that designates a remote receiver station;
- (5) an instruct-to-transfer signal that designates programming;
- (6) an instruct-to-delay signal that designates programming;

(7) an instruct-to-decrypt or instruct-to-interrupt signal that designates programming and one of a method of decryption and interruption;

(8) one of an instruct-to-enable and an instruct-to-disable signal that designates an apparatus;

(9) an instruct-to-record signal that designates programming;

(10) an instruction signal that controls a multimedia presentation;

(11) an instruction signal that governs a receiver station environment;

(12) an instruct-to-power-on signal that designates a receiver;

(13) an instruct-to-tune signal that designates one of a receiver and a frequency;

(14) an instruct-to-coordinate signal that designates multiple apparatus;

(15) an instruct-to-compare signal that designates one of a news transmission and a computer input;

(16) an identifier signal that causes a computer to instruct a plurality of tuners to tune to one of a broadcast and cablecast transmission;

(17) an instruct-to-coordinate signal that designates multiple units of multimedia information and one of: (1) an output time and (2) an output place;

(18) an instruct-to-generate signal that designates an output datum;

(19) an instruct-to-transmit signal that designates a computer output;

(20) an instruct-to-overlay signal that designates a video image;

(21) an instruct-that-if signal that designates a function to perform if a predetermined condition exists;

(22) an instruct-to-enable-and-deliver signal that designates information that supplements a video image;

(23) an instruct-to-transmit signal that designates a computer peripheral storage device;

(24) a code signal that designates a datum to remove or embed; and

(25) a signal addressed to a receiver station apparatus; and  
storing said selected second instruct signal in said file on said file storage  
medium.]

177. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein one of said first of  
said programming receiver stations and said second of said programming receiver  
stations is programmed to process said at least one control signal based on one of a  
transmission location and time, said method further comprising the step of outputting  
said at least one control signal in said one of a transmission location and time. [A  
method of generating and encoding signals to control a plurality of user stations, said  
method comprising the steps of:

receiving and storing a program that contains video information;

receiving an instruction, said instruction having effect at said plurality of user  
stations to: (a) generate information content to complete or supplement said program,  
(b) incorporate said generated information content into a programming signal, and (c)  
transmit to at least one of said plurality of user stations said program and said  
information content, said information content comprising at least one of video, audio,  
and a graphic;

encoding said instruction, said step of encoding translating said instruction to a  
control signal, said control signal directing a processor at at least one of said plurality of  
user stations to perform generation of said information content, incorporation of said  
information content into said programming signal, and transmission of said program  
and said information content, said control signal interacting with predetermined user  
data, said predetermined user data being specific for each of said plurality of user  
stations; and

storing said control signal.]



178. (Once Amended) The method of claim 177, wherein said one of said first of said programming receiver stations and said second of said programming receiver stations is programmed to process said at least one control signal based on one of an interval of time and a predetermined time. [supplemental program material is stored at the same location as said processor and said control signal directs said processor to generate a video overlay that is coordinated with said video information in said program, said method further comprising one of:

storing supplemental program material in conjunction with said program and said control signal; and

storing a second control signal in conjunction with said program and said control signal from said step of encoding, said second control signal having effect at at least one of said plurality of user stations to query a remote station or receive supplemental program material in one of a broadcast and cablecast transmission.]


179. (Once Amended) The method of claim 177, wherein said one of said first of said programming receiver stations and said second of said programming receiver stations is programmed to process said at least one control signal based on a location in said information transmission. [control signal directs said processor to generate a video overlay that is coordinated with said video information in said program, said method further comprising one of:

transmitting a combined video signal from said program and said video overlay generated by said processor to a plurality of receiver stations; and

transmitting a combined video signal from said program and said video overlay generated by said processor to a co-located video display.]

180. (Once Amended) The method of claim 179, further comprising the step of embedding said at least one control signal in said information transmission. [177, further comprising the steps of:

receiving a second instruction, said second instruction being one of :

- 
- (1) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of user stations to generate some output to be associated with said program;
  - (2) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of user stations to generate some output to be associated with said product, service, or information presentation;
  - (3) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of user stations to display one of a combined and sequential mass medium programming presentation and a user specific datum;
  - (4) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of user stations to process a user reaction to said program;
  - (5) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of user stations to communicate to a remote station a query in respect of information to be associated with said program ;
  - (6) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of user stations to control said at least one of said plurality of user stations to receive information to supplement said program;
  - (7) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of user stations to process a digital television signal; and
  - (8) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of user stations to serve as a basis for one of: (a) enabling an output device to display said program, and (b) enabling a processor to process code;

encoding said second instruction, said second step of encoding translating said second instruction to a second control signal, said second control signal directing said ancillary processor; and  
storing said second control signal.]

87  
181. (Once Amended) The method of claim 180, further comprising the step embedding a portion of said mass medium programming before said mass medium programming is transmitted. [177, further having one of:

embedding said control signal in the non-visible portion of a television signal;  
embedding a code in said program that enables a computer or controller to control a presentation of said program in accordance with said control signal;  
communicating a program identification code and storing said program identification code at a storage location associated with said program; and  
communicating to and storing at a storage location associated with said program information to evidence one of the availability, use, and usage of said program at at least one of said plurality of user stations.]

182. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of:  
including in one of said mass medium programming and said at least one control signal a first portion of information which enables one of said programming receiver stations to select one of a second portion of information and a device to which to communicate a second portion of information. [A method of communicating data and update material one of to and in a network, said network comprising a plurality of receiver stations each of which includes a data receiver, a data storage device, a control signal detector, a computer, and with each of said plurality of receiver stations being adapted to detect and respond to an instruct signal and to store data for subsequent

processing, and with at least one of said plurality of receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method comprising the steps of:

- EGW
- (1) receiving data to be transmitted and delivering said data to a transmitter at a transmitter station;
  - (2) receiving an instruct signal which is effective in said network to: (a) generate information content to complete or supplement said data, (b) incorporate said generated information content into a data signal, and (c) transmit to at least one of said plurality of receiver stations said data and said information content, said information content comprising at least one of video, audio, and a graphic;
  - (3) transferring said instruct signal to said transmitter at said transmitter station; and
  - (4) transmitting an information transmission comprising said data and said instruct signal.]

183. (Once Amended) The method of claim 182, further comprising the steps of:  
communicating said second portion of information to a storage device; and  
storing said second portion of information. [wherein at least one of identification data and said instruct signal is embedded in a television signal containing said data.]

184. (Once Amended) The method of claim 183, wherein said device to which to communicate said second portion of information comprises a computer and said second portion of information includes a first instruction to be communicated to said computer, said method further comprising the step of including said second portion of information in said at least one control signal. [182, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations

at the same time and each of said plurality of receiver stations receives or responds to said instruct signal concurrently.]

185. (Once Amended) The method of claim 184, wherein signal content enables said one of said programming receiver stations to communicate to a remote station information evidencing one of (i) receipt of a portion of said information transmission and (ii) a function performed in response to a portion of said information transmission, said method further comprising the step of including said signal content in one of said mass medium programming and said at least one control signal. [182, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at different times and each of said plurality of receiver stations responds to said instruct signal at a different time.]

186. (Once Amended) The method of claim 185, wherein said first portion of information controls said one of said programming receiver stations and said signal content is communicated to said remote station, said method further comprising one step from the group consisting of:

including an identifier in said signal content;

including said signal content in said first portion of information; and

including said first portion of information in said at least one control signal. [182,

further comprising the steps of receiving said data at a data receiver, communicating said data from said data receiver to a memory location, and storing said data at said memory location for a period of time prior to communicating said data to a transmitter.]

187. (Once Amended) The method of claim 182, wherein said one of said programming receiver stations includes a computer and a plurality of first instructions

program said computer to respond to one of a command and a second instruction, said method further comprising one step of the group consisting of:

transmitting said plurality of first instructions; and

transmitting said one of a command and a second instruction. [A method of

communicating program material one of to and in a network, said network comprising a plurality of receiver stations each of which includes a program receiver, an output device, a control signal detector, a processor operably connected to said output device, with each of said plurality of receiver stations being adapted to detect and respond to an instruct signal, and with at least one of said plurality of receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method comprising the steps of:

- (1) receiving a program to be transmitted at a transmitter station and delivering said program to a transmitter at said transmitter station;
- (2) receiving an instruct signal at said transmitter station, said instruct signal operates in said network to: (a) generate information content to complete or supplement said program, (b) incorporate said generated information content into a programming signal, and (c) transmit to at least one of said plurality of receiver stations said program and said information content, said information content comprising at least one of video, audio, and a graphic;
- (3) transferring said instruct signal to said transmitter at said transmitter station; and
- (4) transmitting from said transmitter station an information transmission comprising said program and said instruct signal.]

188. (Once Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least one control signal controls said first of said programming receiver stations to transmit said mass medium programming to said second of said programming receiver stations to control said second of said programming receiver stations. [187, wherein at least one of

identification data and said instruct signal is embedded in a mass medium program signal containing said program.]

189. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one control signal controls said first of said receiver stations to compare said information transmission to a programming schedule and to transmit said information transmission according to said programming schedule. [187, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at the same time and each of said plurality of receiver stations receives or responds to said instruct signal concurrently.]

190. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said information transmission according to a programming schedule and logs transmission of said information transmission. [187, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at different times and each of said plurality of receiver stations responds to said instruct signal at a different time.]

191. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said information transmission according to a programming schedule and generates statistics pertaining to said information transmission. [187, further comprising the steps of receiving said program at a program receiver in said transmitter station, communicating said program from said program receiver to a memory location, and storing said program at said memory location for a period of time prior to communicating said program to said transmitter at a transmitter station.]

192. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said information transmission according to a programming schedule and identifies content of said information transmission. [A method of controlling a network, said network comprising a plurality of receiver stations each of which includes a signal receiver, at least one processor, and a signal detector, said processor being programmed to respond to signals received from said signal detector, with at least one of said plurality of receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method comprising the steps of:

- CGM
- (1) receiving at a transmitter station an instruct signal which is effective at said plurality of receiver stations to: (a) generate information content to complete or supplement said instruct signal, (b) incorporate said generated information content into a signal containing said instruct signal, and (c) transmit to at least one of said plurality of receiver stations said instruct signal and said information content, said information content comprising at least one of video, audio, and a graphic;
  - (2) transferring said instruct signal from said transmitter station to a transmitter;
  - (3) receiving a control signal at said transmitter station, said control signal designating at least one of said plurality of receiver stations to which said instruct signal is addressed; and
  - (4) transferring said control signal from said transmitter station to a transmitter, said transmitter station transmitting said instruct signal and said control signal to said plurality of receiver stations.]

193. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said information transmission according to a programming schedule and outputs an identifier of said information transmission to a remote data collection station. [192, wherein at least one of said instruct signal and said control



signal is embedded in the non-visible portion of one of a television signal and a multichannel broadcast or cablecast signal which contains video.]

194. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one control signal identifies content of said information transmission and controls a switch to communicate said content. [171, further comprising the step of programming said at least one computer to respond to at least one control signal embedded in a television signal.]

195. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one control signal identifies content of said information transmission and delays transmission of said content. [171, further comprising the step of programming said transmission station to detect at least one control signal embedded in a television signal.]

196. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one control signal selects a storage location and stores a portion of said information transmission at said selected storage location. [A method of processing signals in a network, said network including at least one transmitter station and at least one receiver station, said method comprising the steps of:

inputting a plurality of signals to at least one of a switch and a computer at said at least one transmitter station, with at least two of said signals being multimedia signals, each of said multimedia signals including at least one of video, audio and data programming;

controlling said at least one of a switch and a computer to communicate said plurality of signals to said at least one receiver station in accordance with at least one timing instruction;

determining at least one of a programming type and subject matter contained in said multimedia signals;

passing said plurality of signals selectively to at least one processor at said at least one receiver station and controlling said at least one processor on the basis of information contained in said plurality of signals;

delaying at least one of the processing and communication of at least one of said plurality of signals; and

presenting multimedia programming at said at least one receiver station at at least one of a specific time and a specific place in response to an instruct-to-coordinate signal.]

197. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one control signal further delays transmission of said information transmission. [A method of processing signals to control a plurality of user stations, each user station having at least one processor, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a programming signal which contains mass medium programming and communicating said programming signal to a storage device;

receiving at least one instruct signal which is effective to instruct said plurality of user stations to transmit said programming signal according to a predetermined multimedia transmission scheme and output said mass medium programming according to a predetermined multimedia presentation scheme;

selecting one of :

(1) a time to communicate a first instruct signal, said first instruct signal being one of said at least one instruct signal; and

(2) a storage location to communicate said first instruct signal to;  
communicating said first instruct signal based on one of said selected time and said selected storage location; and

storing said programming signal and said first instruct signal at said storage device.]

198. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one control signal further controls said second of said receiver stations to receive said information transmission. [197, further comprising one of the steps of:

embedding said first instruct signal in said programming signal;

embedding a code in said programming signal that enables a processor to control the presentation of said mass medium programming in accordance with said first instruct signal;

communicating a program identification code to said storage device and storing said program identification code at a storage location associated with said programming signal;

communicating to and storing at said storage device information regarding one of the availability, use, and usage of one of said programming signal and said mass medium programming at a user station;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective at a user station to generate output to be associated with one of said programming signal and said mass medium programming;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to generate output to be associated with one of a product and service, said one of a product and service being offered in said mass medium programming;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to display one of a combined presentation and a sequential presentation of a mass medium program and a user specific datum;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to process a user reaction to said mass medium programming ;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to perform one of: (a) communicate to a remote station a query in respect of information to be associated with said programming signal , and (b) enable the display of said mass medium programming;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to control a user station to receive information to supplement one of said programming signal and said mass medium programming;

communicating to and storing at said storage device a second instruct signal which is effective to process a digital television signal; and

communicating to and storing at said storage device code that: (a) serves as a basis for enabling an output device to display said mass medium programming, and (b) enables a processor to process said code.]

199. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said information transmission according to a transmission schedule and controls said second of said receiver stations to store said information transmission. [197, wherein said selected memory location is embedded in said programming signal at said storage device, said method further comprising the step of storing information at said storage device that evidences at least one of:

- (1) a title of a television program;
- (2) an intended use of programming;
- (3) a transmission station;
- (4) a receiver station;
- (5) a network;
- (6) a broadcast station;
- (7) a channel on a cable system;
- (8) a time of transmission;

- (9) a identification of an instruct signal;
- (10) a source or supplier of data;
- (11) a publication, article, publisher, distributor, or advertisement; and
- (12) an indication of copyright.]

200. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one control signal controls said network to transmit said information transmission at a specific time and to generates output information. [197, said method further comprising the steps of:

selecting a datum that performs one of:

- (1) identifying computer software in said programming signal;
- (2) specifying some of a way to instruct receiver end equipment what specific programming to select to play or record other than that immediately at hand, how to load it on player or recorder equipment, when and how to play it or record it other than immediately, how to modify it, what equipment or channel or channels to transmit it on, when to transmit it, and how and where to file it or refile it or dispose of it;

- (3) designating an addressed apparatus;
- (4) specifying information related to locating a signal;
- (5) informing a processor of a fashion for identifying and processing a signal;


- (6) enabling decryption;
- (7) designating a communication schedule; and

embedding said selected datum in said programming signal.]

201. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one control signal controls said network to generate information to complete said

information transmission and to output said generated information with said information transmission. [197, wherein said storage device comprises a file storage medium and said programming signal and said first instruct signal are stored in a file on said file storage medium, said method further comprising the steps of:

selecting a second instruct signal, said second instruct signal being one of:

- 
- (1) a switch control signal;
  - (2) a timing control signal;
  - (3) a locating control signal;
  - (4) an instruct-to-contact signal that designates a remote receiver station;
  - (5) an instruct-to-transfer signal that designates programming;
  - (6) an instruct-to-delay signal that designates programming;
  - (7) an instruct-to-decrypt or instruct-to-interrupt signal that designates programming and one of a method of decryption and interruption;
  - (8) one of an instruct-to-enable and an instruct-to-disable signal that designates an apparatus;
  - (9) an instruct-to-record signal that designates programming;
  - (10) an instruction signal that controls a multimedia presentation;
  - (11) an instruction signal that governs a receiver station environment;
  - (12) an instruct-to-power-on signal that designates a receiver;
  - (13) an instruct-to-tune signal that designates one of a receiver and a frequency;
  - (14) an instruct-to-coordinate signal that designates multiple apparatus;
  - (15) an instruct-to-compare signal that designates one of a news transmission and a computer input;
  - (16) an identifier signal that causes a computer to instruct a plurality of tuners to tune to one of a broadcast and cablecast transmission;

(17) an instruct-to-coordinate signal that designates multiple units of multimedia information and one of: (1) an output time and (2) an output place;

(18) an instruct-to-generate signal that designates an output datum;

(19) an instruct-to-transmit signal that designates a computer output;

(20) an instruct-to-overlay signal that designates a video image;

(21) an instruct-that-if signal that designates a function to perform if a predetermined condition exists;

(22) an instruct-to-enable-and-deliver signal that designates information that supplements a video image;

(23) an instruct-to-transmit signal that designates a computer peripheral storage device;

(24) a code signal that designates a datum to remove or embed; and

(25) a signal addressed to a receiver station apparatus; and


storing said selected second instruct signal in said file on said file storage medium.]

202. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein at least one control signal controls said network to transmit said information transmission according to a programming schedule and to process a response at said second of said programming receiver stations to information contained in said information transmission. [A method of generating and encoding signals to control a plurality of user stations, each of said user stations having at least one processor, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving and storing a program that contains video information;

receiving an instruction, said instruction having effect at said plurality of user stations to transmit said program and information to complete or supplement said program according to a predetermined multimedia transmission scheme and output

said program and said information according to a predetermined multimedia presentation scheme;

 encoding said instruction, said step of encoding translating said instruction to a control signal, said control signal directing a processor at at least one of said plurality of user stations to perform said transmission of said program and said information, said control signal interacting with predetermined user data, said predetermined user data being specific for each of said plurality of user stations; and  
storing said control signal.]

203. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said information transmission according to a programming schedule and controls the output of said information transmission at said second of said receiver stations. [202, wherein supplemental program material is stored at the same location as said processor and said control signal directs said processor to generate a video overlay that is coordinated with said video information in said program, said method further comprising one of:

storing supplemental program material in conjunction with said program and said control signal; and

storing a second control signal in conjunction with said program and said control signal from said step of encoding, said second control signal having effect at at least one of said plurality of user stations to query a remote station or receive supplemental program material in one of a broadcast and cablecast transmission.]

204. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one control signal decrypts a portion of said information transmission. [202, wherein said control signal directs said processor to generate a video overlay that is coordinated with said video information in said program, said method further comprising one of:



transmitting a combined video signal from said program and said video overlay generated by said processor to a plurality of receiver stations; and

transmitting a combined video signal from said program and said video overlay generated by said processor to a co-located video display.]

205. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one control signal transmits said information transmission according to a schedule and outputs said information transmission as a portion of a multimedia presentation. [202, further comprising the steps of:

receiving a second instruction, said second instruction being one of :

- (1) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of user stations to generate some output to be associated with said program;
- (2) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of user stations to generate some output to be associated with said product, service, or information presentation;
- (3) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of user stations to display one of a combined and sequential mass medium programming presentation and a user specific datum;
- (4) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of user stations to process a user reaction to said program;
- (5) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of user stations to communicate to a remote station a query in respect of information to be associated with said program ;
- (6) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of user stations to control said at least one of said plurality of user stations to receive information to supplement said program;

(7) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of user stations to process a digital television signal ; and

(8) an instruction which is effective at at least one of said plurality of user stations to serve as a basis for one of: (a) enabling an output device to display said program, and (b) enabling a processor to process code.

encoding said second instruction, said second step of encoding translating said second instruction to a second control signal, said second control signal directing said ancillary processor; and  
storing said second control signal.]

206. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said first of said receiver stations and said second of said receiver stations each identify content of said information transmission by processing one of said at least one control signal and said at least one designation signal, said method further comprising the step of including an identifier in said one of said at least one control signal and said at least one designation signal. [202, further having one of:


embedding said control signal in the non-visible portion of a television signal;

embedding a code in said program that enables a computer or controller to control a presentation of said program in accordance with said control signal;

communicating a program identification code and storing said program identification code at a storage location associated with said program; and

communicating to and storing at a storage location associated with said program information to evidence one of the availability, use, and usage of said program at at least one of said plurality of user stations.]

207. (Once Amended) The method of claim 206, wherein said identifier identifies one of television and radio programming, said method further comprising the

 step of including said one of television and radio programming in said information transmission. [A method of communicating data and update material to a network, said network having a plurality of receiver stations each of which includes a data receiver, a data storage device, a control signal detector, a computer, and with each of said plurality of receiver stations being adapted to detect and respond to an instruct signal and to store data for subsequent processing, and with at least one of said plurality of receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method comprising the steps of:

- (1) receiving data to be transmitted at an origination station and delivering said data to an origination transmitter;
- (2) receiving an instruct signal which is effective in said network to transmit said data according to a predetermined multimedia transmission scheme and output said data according to a predetermined multimedia presentation scheme;
- (3) transferring said instruct signal to said origination transmitter; and
- (4) transmitting an information transmission comprising said data and said instruct signal.]

208. (Once Amended) The method of claim 206, wherein said identifier identifies one of video and audio, said method further comprising the step of including said one of video and audio in said information transmission. [207, wherein at least one of identification data and said instruct signal is embedded in a television signal containing said data.]

209. (Once Amended) The method of claim 206, wherein said identifier identifies one of a datum and an instruction, said method further comprising the step of including said one of a datum and an instruction in said information transmission. [207, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality


of receiver stations at the same time and each of said plurality of receiver stations receives or responds to said instruct signal concurrently.]

210. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said first of said receiver stations and said second of said receiver stations each monitor one of availability, use, and usage of content of said information transmission, said method further comprising the step of including in said information transmission a portion of information to be processed that identifies said content of said information transmission. [207, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at different times and each of said plurality of receiver stations responds to said instruct signal at a different time.]

211. (Once Amended) The method of claim 210, wherein said portion of information is stored at a storage device based on said step of transmitting. [207, further comprising the steps of receiving said data at a data receiver, communicating said data from said data receiver to a memory location, and storing said data at said memory location for a period of time prior to communicating said data to said origination transmitter.]

212. (Once Amended) The method of claim 211, wherein said portion of information includes code which is operative to control said processor at each of said receiver stations, said method further comprising the step of including said code in one of said at least one control signal and said at least one of said designation channel. [A method of communicating program material to a network, said network comprising a plurality of receiver stations each of which includes a program receiver, an output device, a control signal detector, a processor operably connected to said output device, with each of said plurality of receiver stations being adapted to detect and respond to

an instruct signal, and with at least one of said plurality of receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method comprising the steps of:

- 
- (1) receiving a program to be transmitted at an origination station and delivering said program to an origination transmitter;
  - (2) receiving an instruct signal at said origination station, said instruct signal operates in said network to transmit said program and information to complete or supplement said program according to a predetermined multimedia transmission scheme and output said program and said information according to a predetermined multimedia presentation scheme;
  - (3) transferring said instruct signal to said origination transmitter; and
  - (4) transmitting from said origination station an information transmission comprising said program and said instruct signal.]

213. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein one of said first of said receiver stations and said second of said receiver stations is programmed to process one of said at least one control signal and said at least one designation signal based on one of a transmission location and time, said method further comprising the step of outputting said one of said at least one control signal and said designation signal in said one of a transmission location and time. [212, wherein at least one of identification data and said instruct signal is embedded in a mass medium program signal containing said program.]

214. (Once Amended) The method of claim 213, wherein said one of said first of said receiver stations and said second of said receiver stations is programmed to process said one of said at least one control signal and said designation signal based on one of an interval of time and a predetermined time. [212, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations

at the same time and each of said plurality of receiver stations receives or responds to said instruct signal concurrently.]

215. (Once Amended) The method of claim 213, wherein said one of said first of said receiver stations and said second of said receiver stations is programmed to process one of said at least one control signal and said at least one designation signal based on a location in said information transmission. [212, wherein said step of transmitting directs said information transmission to said plurality of receiver stations at different times and each of said plurality of receiver stations responds to said instruct signal at a different time.]

216. (Once Amended) The method of claim 215, further comprising the step of embedding said one of said at least one control signal and said at least one designation signal in said information transmission. [212, further comprising the steps of receiving said program at a program receiver in said origination station, communicating said program from said program receiver to a memory location, and storing said program at said memory location for a period of time prior to communicating said program to said origination transmitter.]

217. (Once Amended) The method of claim 215, further comprising the step of embedding a portion of said information transmission before said information transmission is transmitted. [A method of controlling a network, said network comprising a plurality of receiver stations each of which includes a signal receiver, at least one processor, and a signal detector, said processor being programmed to respond to signals received from said signal detector, with at least one of said plurality of receiver stations further including a transmitter, said method comprising the steps of:

(1) receiving at an origination station an instruct signal which is effective at said plurality of receiver stations to transmit said instruct signal according to a predetermined multimedia transmission scheme and output programming according to a predetermined multimedia presentation scheme in response to said instruct signal;

(2) transferring said instruct signal from said origination station to an origination transmitter;

(3) receiving a control signal at said origination station, said control signal designating at least one of said plurality of receiver stations to which said instruct signal is addressed; and

(4) transferring said control signal from said origination station to said origination transmitter, said origination station transmitting said instruct signal and said control signal to said plurality of receiver stations.]

218. (Once Amended) The method of claim 23, further comprising the step of:

including in one of said information transmission a first portion of information which enables one of said receiver stations to select one of a second portion of information and a device to which to communicate a second portion of information.

[217, wherein at least one of said instruct signal and said control signal is embedded in the non-visible portion of one of a television signal and a multichannel broadcast or cablecast signal which contains video.]

219. (Once Amended) The method of claim 218, wherein said at least one control signal is addressed to a device in said at least one receiver station, said method further comprising one of the group consisting of:

including said first portion of information in said at least one designation signal;  
and

*Ex 7*  
*Amended*  
including said second portion of information signal in said at least one control signal. [A method of processing multimedia signals in a network comprised of at least one transmission station and at least one receiver station, said at least one receiver station having a storage location for storing multimedia programming, said storage location being one of an optical disk player, a video recorder/player, and a computer, said method comprising:

inputting to said network a plurality of signals, with at least two of said plurality of signals being multimedia signals, each of said multimedia signals comprising receiver station specific at least one of video, audio and data programming, said multimedia signals further including an embedded identification datum;

inputting said plurality of signals to a switch and a processor at said transmission station;

controlling said switch to communicate said plurality of signals to said receiver station according to timing instructions;

identifying the programming that is being inputted to said switch ;

communicating an instruct-to-coordinate signal to said receiver station;

delaying at least one of the processing and communication of said multimedia signals in response to at least one of said instruct-to-coordinate signal and programming stored at said processor; and

presenting multimedia programming to a subscriber at said receiver station at at least one of a specific time and a specific place in response to said instruct-to-coordinate signal, said multimedia programming being contained in said multimedia signals.]

220. (Once Amended) The method of claim 219, wherein said device to which to communicate said second portion of information comprises a computer and said second portion of information includes a first instruction to be communicated to



*Encl*  
said computer. [196, further comprising the step of recognizing an order in which said plurality of signals are at least one of stored, communicated, and processed.]

*Encl*  
221. (Once Amended) The method of claim 220, wherein signal content enables said one of said receiver stations to communicate to a remote station information evidencing one of (i) receipt of a portion of said information transmission and (ii) a function performed in response to a portion of said information transmission, said method further comprising the step of including said signal content in said information transmission. [196, further comprising the step organizing files containing said multimedia signals.]

Please add the following new claims.

*Encl*  
222. (New Claim) The method of claim 221, wherein said first portion of information controls said one of said receiver stations and said signal content is communicated to said remote station, said method further comprising one step from the group consisting of:

- including an identifier in said signal content;
- including said signal content in said first portion of information;
- including said first portion of information in said at least one control signal; and
- including said at least one designation signal in said at least one control signal.

223. (New Claim) The method of claim 218, wherein said one of said receiver stations includes a computer and a plurality of first instructions program said computer to respond to one of a command and a second instruction, said method further comprising one step from the group consisting of:

- transmitting said plurality of first instructions; and

transmitting one of a command and a second transmission.

224. (New Claim) The method of claim 23, wherein said at least one control signal controls said first of said receiver stations to transmit said information transmission to said second of said receiver stations to control said second of said receiver stations.

225. (New Claim) The method of claim 2, wherein said step of logging includes constructing a record.

226. (New Claim) The method of claim 225, wherein said identifier identifies one of a plurality of channels and a record is constructed for each of said plurality of channels.

227. (New Claim) The method of claim 225, further comprising the step of transmitting said record to a remote site.

228. (New Claim) The method of claim 26, wherein said signal is contained in a television programming transmission.

229. (New Claim) The method of claim 26, wherein said signal includes an identifier.

230. (New Claim) The method of claim 229, wherein said network transmits one of said signal and said identifier via telephone network.

231. (New Claim) The method of claim 26, wherein said step of comparing is performed at said transmitter station.

232. (New Claim) The method of claim 26, wherein one of said step of comparing and said step of determining is performed at said receiver station.

233. (New Claim) The method of claim 26, wherein said step of determining includes determining one of a channel and a frequency.

234. (New Claim) The method of claim 26, wherein said step of determining includes determining a portion of a broadband information transmission.

235. (New Claim) The method of claim 26, wherein said step of determining includes determining a location from which signal is transmitted or is to be transmitted.

236. (New Claim) The method of claim 31, further comprising the step of storing said selected portion of said signal.

237. (New Claim) The method of claim 31, wherein said selected portion of said signal includes said first identifier.

238. (New Claim) The method of claim 31, further comprising the step of tuning to receive programming contained in said signal based on one of said first identifier and said step of selecting.

239. (New Claim) The method of claim 36, further comprising the step of tuning to receive said programming.

240. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~239~~, further comprising the step inputting said programming to a computer.

241. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~41~~, further comprising the step of selecting a second of said plurality of signals according to said schedule.

Es  
Cmt  
242. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~41~~, further comprising the step of responding to said signal.

243. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~242~~, wherein said step of responding to said signal is performed at said transmission station.

244. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~41~~, wherein said step of outputting is performed at said transmission station.

245. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~41~~, wherein said step of outputting is performed at a receiver station.

246. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~245~~, wherein said receiver station receives said signal from said transmission station.

247. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~41~~, further comprising the step of communicating said signal to an addressed device.

248. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~247~~, wherein said step of communicating is based on said step of identifying.

249. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~46~~, further comprising selecting a second of said plurality of signals according to said schedule.

250. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~64~~, further comprising the steps of: selecting a storage location, and storing said signal at said storage location.

251. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~64~~, wherein said signal is one of a plurality of signals.

252. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~251~~, further comprising the step of reordering said plurality of signals.

253. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~65~~, wherein said plurality of signals include audio programming and data programming.

254. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~65~~, wherein said one signal includes one of audio programming and data programming.

255. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~65~~, wherein said plurality of signals include video programming and audio programming for simultaneous output to a viewer and said one signal includes audio programming.

256. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~70~~, wherein said signal is one of a plurality of signals.

257. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~256~~, further comprising the step of storing said plurality of signals in an order.

258. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~256~~, further comprising the step of reordering said plurality of signals.

ES  
259. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~75~~, wherein said processor is located at a receiver station remote from said transmission station.

260. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~80~~, wherein said selected information is detected in said comparison signal.

261. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~80~~, wherein said comparison signal includes a plurality of identifiers.

262. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~80~~, wherein said receiver station includes a plurality of receivers.

263. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~262~~, further comprising the steps of: receiving said selected information at a first of said plurality of receivers, and receiving said portion of said information transmission at a second of said plurality of receivers.

264. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~80~~, wherein said step of receiving includes actuating a receiver.

265. (New Claim) The method of claim 80, wherein said step of receiving includes controlling a tuner.

266. (New Claim) The method of claim 80, wherein said step of receiving includes controlling a storage device.

267. (New Claim) The method of claim 80, wherein said selected information is detected in said information transmission.

268. (New Claim) The method of claim 80, wherein said programming signal includes an identifier.

269. (New Claim) The method of claim 80, wherein said programming signal includes said comparison signal.

270. (New Claim) The method of claim 85, wherein said step of causing includes one of selecting a frequency and tuning a receiver.

271. (New Claim) The method of claim 85, wherein said step of causing includes identifying said one of said plurality of signals.

272. (New Claim) The method of claim 88, further comprising the step of programming said computer to respond to at least one control signal embedded in a television signal.

273. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~88~~, further comprising the step of programming said transmission station to detect at least one control signal embedded in a television signal.

274. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~93~~, wherein said user response is inputted by a computer.

275. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~93~~, wherein said user response is inputted by a viewer.

276. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~93~~, further comprising the step selecting one of said plurality of signals based on said user response.

277. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~276~~, further comprising the step of outputting information at said user station based on said step of selecting.

278. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~277~~, further comprising the step of detecting said outputted information in said selected one of said plurality of signals.

279. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~277~~, further comprising the step of generating said outputted information in response to said selected one of said plurality of signals.

280. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~98~~, wherein said timing instruction includes a schedule.



281. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~280~~, further comprising the step of causing said transmission station to transmit said plurality of signals in accordance with said schedule.

282. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~280~~, further comprising the step of detecting an identifier in said plurality of signals.

283. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~282~~, further comprising the step of comparing said identifier to information contained in said schedule.

284. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~98~~, further comprising the step of including an instruct-to-coordinate signal in said plurality of signals.

285. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~284~~, wherein said instruct-to-coordinate signal includes an identifier.

286. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~98~~, further comprising the step reordering two of said plurality of signals.

287. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~103~~, wherein said timing instruction causes said transmitter station to transmit one of said plurality of signals immediately.

288. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~103~~, wherein said timing instruction causes said transmitter station to delay transmission of one of said plurality of signals.

289. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~103~~, further comprising the step comparing information contained in said plurality of signals to a portion of said timing instruction.

290. (New Claim) The method of claim 289, wherein said information contained in said plurality of signals includes a first identifier and said portion of said timing instruction includes a second identifier.

291. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~103~~, wherein said multimedia presentation includes programming communicated in a first of said multimedia signals.

292. (New Claim) The method of claim 291, further comprising the step of generating a portion of said multimedia presentation in response to a second of said multimedia signals.

293. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~103~~, further comprising the step of communicating a request from said receiver station for information needed at said receiver station to output a portion of said multimedia presentation.

294. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~108~~, further comprising the step of recognizing an order in which said plurality of signals are one of stored, communicated, and processed.

295. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~108~~, further comprising the step organizing files containing said plurality of signals.

296. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~108~~, wherein said processor is controlled on the basis of an identifier.

297. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~296~~, further comprising the step of programming said processor to compare a portion of said plurality of signals to said identifier.

298. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~296~~, further comprising the step of comparing each of said plurality of signals to said identifier.

299. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~296~~, wherein said plurality of signals includes said identifier.

300. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~108~~, further comprising the step of determining one of a programming kind and subject matter contained in said plurality of signals.

301. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~120~~, wherein a first of said plurality of receiver stations is caused to transit said portion of said information transmission based on said signal and a second of said plurality of receiver stations is caused to store portion of said information transmission based on said signal.

302. (New Claim) The method of claim ~~120~~, wherein said first of said plurality of receiver stations is caused to select one of a plurality of transmitters and communicate said portion of said information transmission to said selected one of said plurality of transmitters.